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Shawn Smandych dressed to the nines for the HHHSF Ball.

More pictures & story
see pg. 10

Oxtongue Lake Community Centre Hangs in the Balance

by Liz Daniels

"How in your wildest dreams can you plan on spending \$5 million dollars at the airport and concern yourself with a few thousand dollars in operating costs for our community centre?" (Fran Gower)

"This has been a comedy of errors." (Reeve Eleanor Harrison)

On November 20th, the Algonquin Highlands Council Chambers was once again filled to overflowing with ratepayers wanting to address a controversial subject. More than 40 people, some of them spilling out into the hallway, came to listen to four deputations about the future of the Oxtongue Lake Community Hall. They brought with them a petition of more than 100 signatures beseeching Council to let them keep their community centre. Throughout the meeting it became apparent that the residents of Oxtongue Lake are feeling isolated from the rest of the community, left out and even offended by a Council that is considering the closure of the only meeting place they have.

The Oxtongue Lake Community Hall, an old stone building, was initially built during the heyday of Hubbel's Mill as the McClintock Schoolhouse. When the mill closed and many of the workers left the area, the schoolhouse was turned over to the community as a centre for use by the residents. The building, while initially managed by a Board of Trustees, was finally turned over to the Townships of Sherborne, McClintock and

Livingstone because of liability issues.

Like many other Councils since amalgamation, the Algonquin Highlands Council has been looking into the viability of all their municipally owned buildings. In considering community halls, they asked staff for a detailed report on the Club 35 Community Centre in Stanhope and the Ox-



tongue Lake Community Centre in McClintock.

Fran Gower first addressed the possible closure of the Oxtongue Centre and prefaced her comments with an apology for any negative or sarcastic remarks. Gower has been an extremely active member of the community on many levels for the past 52 years including being a municipal councillor and President of the Ratepayers Association.

Oxtongue cont'd... pg. 5...

**Inside
This
Issue**



**Santa
Comes to
Town...**
Pg. 2 & 22



**Heritage Ballet
Brings Back the
Nutcracker...**
pg. 11



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Welcome Carrie Feir!

This week the Voice is delighted to welcome Carrie Feir to our Sales Team. Her energy, and bubbling enthusiasm have already given the entire staff a lift – not to mention our clients new and old.

Carrie was born and raised in Haliburton by mom Wendy Feir and is the proud granddaughter of the late Creighton Feir, the greatly loved and lamented former advertising manager (and one-time owner) of the Haliburton Echo. After graduating from Haliburton High, she studied at Nipissing University in Bracebridge in Child and Family Studies before studying business at Thomson College in Toronto.

For the last year she's worked as a Sales Representative for IN Tune Magazine in Richmond Hill, a position which allowed her to realize how much she loved the cut and thrust of the publishing interest, and how easily she adapted to sales. "I really liked public speaking, all through public and high school – and I enjoy all aspects of working with the public. I just like people, I guess, just like my grandfather: I'm so proud of his legacy – I just hope I can do him proud."

Carrie has moved back to Haliburton permanently with her partner Ryan Reed and daughter MacKenzie (3) and son Landon (19 mo). Welcome back Carrie and welcome aboard! ■

Discover the Joy in Drumming 'NGOMA!' Exhibit Raises Awareness of World-wide Issues

Mark Arike

Staff Reporter

The sounds of African-made drums echoed throughout the Rails End Gallery in Haliburton last Saturday as the 'NGOMA! Drums in the Village' exhibition opened to the public. Santa Clause also dropped by the gallery for photos with the kids.

Several children and their families could be seen testing out the many drums that are currently on display at the gallery. The Rails End Gallery collaborated with Abbey North Drummers to put on the exhibit that began with a thunderous start on Wednesday, Nov. 19 by way of a drumming circle.

"We had 25 people on our first night at the drumming circle with Abbey North," said Laurie Jones, Executive Director of The Rails End Gallery.

So who are the Abbey North Drummers you might ask?

They are a group made of local area drummers including Barry "Bazza" Hayward, Eric Lilius, Joshua Ewert and others who drum to assist select charitable and humanitarian organizations raise awareness and funds, particularly those that support HIV/AIDS work in Africa and elsewhere. They are also dedicated to ecological living and the de-legitimization of war.

This year, these three founders of the group traveled to Africa to help the people of the country. It was in Zambia, while working with a local NGO partner, that they were able to arrange the purchase and shipment of the NGOMA! Collection.

Many of the instruments on the exhibit were in the Kabwata Cultural Centre in Lusaka and are handmade by the area's artisans. Funds earned through purchases of these drums are used by self-help groups to support business start-ups by people living with AIDS and are used to promote sustainable practices based on local ecology.

Today at 3 p.m., an audiovisual presentation will be made by Abbey North Drummers, followed by community drumming circles at 4 and 6:30 p.m. and a repeat of the audiovisual presentation will be played again at 7:30 p.m.

The last day of the exhibition in the gallery will be on Thursday, Dec. 4. A 24-hour drum-a-thon will also be held at the gallery starting on Friday, Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. and will

run until Saturday, Dec. 6 at 6 p.m.

For drum-a-thon entry forms contact Laurie Jones at the gallery at 705 457-2330. ■



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Thursday, December 4th. 4:30 - 6:30 pm

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&

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THURSDAY



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FRIDAY



Cloudy with snow showers



SATURDAY



Cloudy with a few flurries



SUNDAY



Cloudy with a few flurries



MONDAY



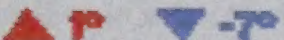
Becoming partly sunny



TUESDAY



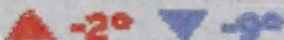
Chance of snow showers



WEDNESDAY



Chance of snow showers or flurries



Your Unofficial Lotto Numbers



Nov. 22, 2008

09 21 28 37 44 49

Bonus Number 19

Encore 0260760



Nov 21, 2008

01 15 27 38 40 43 44

Bonus Number 03

Encore 8980350

Next Jackpot is \$2,500,000

These are all unofficial numbers. To confirm a win please visit www.olg.ca or visit a local authorized OLG dealer.



Santa was in Haliburton on November 21. He will be visiting Minden on the 29th. See the inside centre of the Communicator for details.

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County Voice



Letter of the Week

Dear Editor:

"Health Canada will be stepping in once they realize their responsibilities here."

One thing I would like to say about our problems with uranium in our lives... we are all in this together. What is happening to our native brothers living close to the open pit uranium sites is not acceptable on any level. We as a people have not learned from our mistakes. The mining act is unbelievably naïve. And our Premier McGuinty needs a real awakening.

To think he had the perfect opportunity to do the right thing... and he blew it! We can't expect any different from our conservative leader Harper. All head (and the thoughts that are there are questionable) and no heart. I know they say those are the successful ones. That depends how you qualify success. It doesn't seem to matter who die's in the process. The machine rolls forward with no thought involved. And we will pay. As the proof is all around us. If we need a revolution for change... so be it. The future is ours!... it's our children's... and theirs. Their may very well be a band on all mining in Haliburton County including gravel pits and quarries without radiological testing, environment assessments and so on. No ones health is worth the risk. This is our future whether we are ready for it or not. If it's not now... it will be in the future as we watch the fatalities grow over time. We know now... now is when change is necessary. Many of us are watching our loved ones suffer needlessly. This is a change of consciousness for our civilization. It is happening now as you read this. The fact that the government is wanting all residential properties to have drilled wells?! This is very alarming. Considering it's starting to look more like the drilled wells are a major culprit along with all our mining history of course.

By our estimates dug well's are the best for our part of the country. Drilled well's cut through uranium veins. The percentage is very high that a drilled well ... could dig up your worst nightmare..

Health Canada will be stepping in once they realize their responsibilities here. First they need to get educated. This is an area of study that has been totally ignored by our educational system along with our government ministries who wear the veil.

All uranium mining on this planet should come to a complete stop. And should never proceed again without an absolute understanding of this ore. The fact that we let the mining act control all other acts including health is absolutely archaic. We have seen the devastation... the suffering...

It is time!

Shawn Arscott
Tory Hill, On

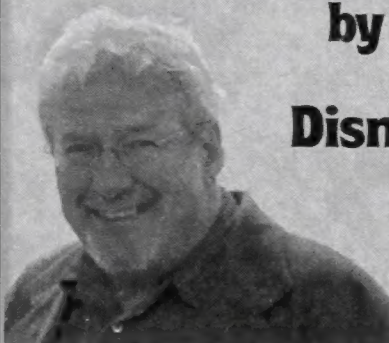
Say you saw it in the Voice

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

by Stephen Patrick

Dismal Science – Merry Christmas!



Is It Really Armageddon?

Every day the economic news seems to get a little worse: our Prime Minister, an economist by trade, has been a passionate opponent of budget deficits for his entire career. Now he admits that there are circumstances in which a deficit is required, and yes, this is one of them. He even invokes the mistakes governments made in the 1930s when confronted by similar circumstances. The 1930s? The Great Depression? Millions unemployed, breadlines, untold misery and suffering for an entire generation?

According to many economists, including some federal government officials, the Harper government's next budget could project a deficit of anywhere from \$3 billion to as much as \$30 billion. Many Haliburtonians will remember the transition from the Ontario Provincial government of David Peterson to the NDP government of Bob Rae back in the 1990s. The Peterson government had been flush with money, but left the till dry, with billions in unsupportable obligations. The new NDP government's first budget ran a deficit of \$10 billion – an enormous sum in those days – and the government never recovered. Will a similar fate await Mr. Harper?

It's really hard for anyone who has studied the Great Depression, or heard the grim tales from family of just how awful it was, to imagine that we're anywhere near those dire straits. True, Haliburton's business community is nervous: with the current headlines, who wouldn't be? And it's also true that these economic downturns can appear with frightening speed: as a former Haliburton retailer who saw revenues plunge at an entirely irrational pace in the recession of the early 1990s, I can certainly attest to the power of a downturn.

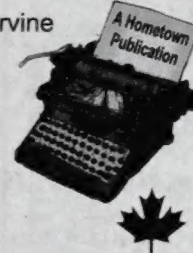
This Holiday Season Haliburton's retailers have once again provided shoppers with an astonishing array of goods to choose from. For all of us who live here, it's essential that we give our local merchants a first, second and third look before we venture beyond our borders, either literally or virtually. I realize that this isn't the first time we've mentioned the importance of shopping locally in this space before, but Christmas is truly a critical business time, not just for the retailers, but for all of us, our families, friends, and neighbours. A sharp decrease in Christmas sales could be fatal for some retailers. It's simple: shop here and help make your community strong.

Kudos for Devolin

Last week Barry Devolin, our local Member of Parliament, won some and lost some. He failed in his bid to become Speaker of the House, but was honoured to be appointed, with the approval of all four political parties, and the Prime Minister, as an Assistant Deputy Speaker, one of four members who run the House on a day-to-day basis. Devolin has a significant academic and policy background in history and political science, and has always enjoyed the more cerebral aspects of public life, as opposed to the raw rough and tumble exemplified by Parliament's daily Question Period. He also brings a nuanced bipartisan view of how the House and Committees should be run – which can do nothing but good for an institution too often held up for ridicule for its schoolboy antics. Sincere congratulations are due to Mr. Devolin for his well-deserved appointment.

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Oxtongue Lake Community Centre

... from pg. 1

Gower questioned Council's motives for closing what she called the 'heart' of their small community. She suggested that they wished to sell it to raise funds to build the controversial airstrip in Stanhope. Gower asked why there had been no public meeting held about Council's intentions and why no consideration had been given to closing other community centres given the high cost to maintain them.



Gower said she was deeply offended by comments made by Reeve Eleanor Harrison that no one would hold a wedding reception in the hall, suggesting that it had little value. Gower said it had been good enough for renowned artist Robert Bateman to attend a reception there and everyone had had a wonderful time. Harrison later apologized for this comment, saying that the building was quaint and historic, but possibly not big enough for a large reception.

Gower spoke of the importance of the building as a gathering place in a small remote community and the only place to meet in emergency situations, to vote, for group meetings, fire department training sessions and numerous social events.

Gower said, "How in your wildest dreams can you plan on spending \$5 million dollars at the airport and concern yourself with a few thousand dollars in operating costs for our community centre?"

Gower said that it was only through the hard work and generosity of Oxtongue area residents that the school was built and later turned over to the community. She asked that the key to the building be returned to the community, rather than being held in Dorset, that the building be made available free of charge for non profit organizations and finally, she implored Council not to take the building away from them.

Gary Schultz, President of the Oxtongue Lake Ratepayers Association, reminded Council of a motion presented at their AGM that strongly voiced the members' desire to keep the centre and the association's willingness to work with Council to ensure that it is retained and used to its maximum ability.

Schultz said, "We don't have much as a community; no recreation facility, no municipal building, no airport, no museum or library, no sidewalks or beautification programs and no public works buildings or yard. What we do have is two buildings; the fire hall and a single room schoolhouse that the community converted into a community centre."

Schultz said that the nominal cost to maintain the building should be viewed as an investment in the community and the people that pay taxes and to ensure that the building is there when needed. "We really want your support to keep the building as a viable entity in the community," he said.

John Salvagna spoke about fund raising initiatives to assist with the cost of maintaining the building and said he would be more than willing to find volunteers to assist. Harrison responded that Council would consider all suggestions before moving forward with a decision.

Scott Hayden reviewed the history of the building and the community's involvement. He talked about the countless hours of volunteer time and donations that have gone into maintaining the community centre, adding that the Oxtongue fire hall had been built from foundation to roof by volunteers. Hayden estimated that the Oxtongue area brings in more than 10% of the tax base in Algonquin Highlands which should warrant the cost of maintaining the community hall, something that is the very essence of small town rural Canada.

Hayden talked about the key for the centre being kept in Dorset, saying that the residents are deeply insulted by this as it suggests that Council hold the opinion they aren't capable or responsible enough to be in charge of the key. He compared the cost to run the centre to other centres in Algonquin Highlands, saying that it is a pittance in comparison. "Taking the key away from our community contributes greatly to the lack of use of the hall and the inconvenience borders on insurmountable."

Hayden said that the Ministry of Tourism values the community for what it has to offer, and suggested that the Council should do so as well.

Harrison said, "I don't know how you got the impression that today would be the day that a For Sale sign would be put on the building." She said that the community centres were not the only infrastructure being considered, and that Council were looking at docks & landings, bridges and roads and they must consider their overall needs and priorities.

CAO Lorne Mitchell gave a presentation detailing the history, maintenance requirements and usage for both Club 35 and Oxtongue. The Oxtongue Community Centre's use was minimal and it has immediate maintenance needs totalling \$5,000. While the report made no recommendations, the bottom line in both cases was that Council has the unencumbered authority to decide possible future uses for the facilities, including disposal.

Harrison told the delegation that the Stanhope and Dorset Community Halls had not been considered for disposal because they had both been constructed with taxpayers' dollars. She said, "None of these facilities make money, but we are trying to get a handle on usage and whether there is a better way to make use of the halls."

Harrison also spoke about communication problems with the previous committee in Oxtongue and the problem achieving a quorum for meetings. She said that even though efforts in the past had been unsuccessful, it did not mean that efforts would not be made from this point forward.

Harrison assured the group that removing the key from the community did not indicate a lack of trust, but a concern that there were too many keys available. She promised to work on this, but cautioned that there would have to be some form of contractual arrangement given concerns about liability.

Harrison said she would like to see a small committee struck to work issues out and bring recommendations back to Council in January for consideration. She also said it would be preferable for the group to be a Committee of Council but added that more round table discussion would be needed to reach a solution.

Schultz said, "We're at a crossroads. There is a lot of good will here, but we need you to remove the threat of losing the centre. As a community we are prepared to work together and meet any demands you have, but the first step is to take the dark cloud away." Schultz asked if a motion to that effect could go forward to the full Council at their next meeting as a gesture to the group, and Harrison responded, "I don't see why not."

A concern was raised from the audience that previous correspondence sent to Council had gone unanswered. The fact that even the fire department members could not access the community hall for training seemed to come as a surprise to Council.

Harrison said, "This has been a comedy of errors. I guess we didn't try hard enough. For today it is not on the chopping block." She continued to say that disposal was an option which was Council's reason for requesting the staff report.

In the aftermath of the meeting, both Gower and Schultz were very hopeful. Schultz said, "We're very positive as a community after our meeting with Council. It's likely due to the fact that 40 of us attended the meeting which ensured a positive atmosphere. I think Council would be out of step to go against the community and I think we'll be able to keep the community hall for at least the term of this Council." ■

To the Editor:

"In the years it has been closed, I have only seen township workers twice on the road working."

With respect to Dark Lake Road, I would like to publicly apologize to both Deputy Reeve Jim Mackie and Councillor Donna Graham for my continual slip of calling the beach in front of my house that I have mowed, raked and kept clean with the help of my family and loyal friends and customers for 53 years as "my beach." How silly of my! And for referring to Wilberforce as my Town! How about my church, my store, or even my road, when referring to Dark Lake Road? I will try to keep this in check from now on. I know that they aren't mine!

To Gary Stoughton, I am sure the people that have been wanting their roads ploughed and maintained by the township will be happy to hear that the township has lots of money to blow. Your words were "whether it costs \$12,000 or \$25,000 or more — the road will be opened," a road that is of no necessity to the people living on it. We all have access to Dark Lake Road or the highway.

In the years that it has been closed, I have only seen township workers twice on the road working; once to put in the trees to stop more erosion and once to put in the benches. If my memory is correct, Gary accused my neighbour of putting them in when it was your own people. The upkeep has been done by us, the property owners keep it mowed, garbage cleaned up and fallen trees and branches cleared, to keep it as the beautiful walking path it should be, not overgrown and dirty. Do we get paid township wages? No, we do it because we love and respect where we live, like most tax payers.

This has gone on long enough! Put aside your petty peeve thinking that we have something you and your band of merry men don't have. Nothing has changed.

The incident of me telling someone to leave the beach happened years ago and I would do it at the Wilbermere beach if children swimming were involved. Why over the years did you ask my permission to bring your grandchildren to my beach as you referred to it many times and now all this nonsense is coming out? No one has ever been refused use of the beach, only asked to respect the personal property at the beach.

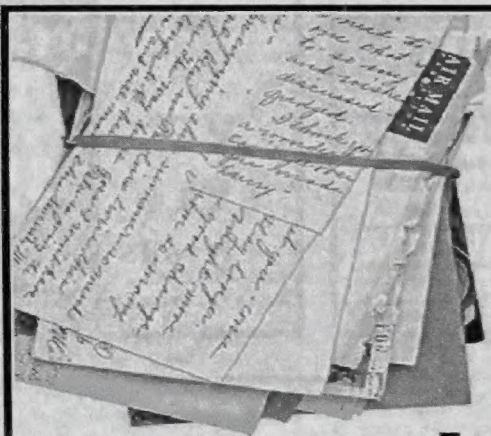
Be assured that if this road opens, whatever little thing that happens, you will hear from me, and that means all of you!

I always thought you took your concerns to your Ward Councillor, and not to have to take them to all the others. I have done this and Councillor Suzanne Partridge has always been very helpful. I'd like to thank Suzanne and Reeve Dave Burton for trying to make sense of this on our behalf. I realize that the majority rules. It would appear that three councillors and a few people who don't have the ability to put their complaint in writing so we could address them have the last say.

Opening the road will not make it safer. It will only make a few people happier in getting their own way.

In closing, I would like to thank all those people that have called and stopped in to support us in our effort to keep the road closed. Many of you were against the road being closed, but now after all these years even you can't understand the reasoning for opening it up again.

Roberta Walsh. ■



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to the
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are always
welcome**

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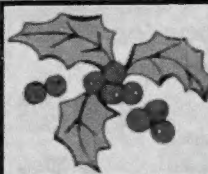
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Frost Centre Institute Takes Another Step Forward

Liz Danielsen

Staff Reporter

"It's a life changing event for the kids that have attended." (Al Aubry)

At their meeting last Thursday, the Algonquin Highlands Council considered a request from the Frost Centre Institute to support a funding application geared to help with start-up costs for the Centre's new Environmental College. The College, whose goal is to provide a world class education experience for students preparing to enter university level environmental programs, is scheduled to open in September of 2009.

The College is partnering with the University of Guelph and is set to welcome their first boarding and day students into a programme that will offer a full Middle and Secondary School curriculum, but they will be placing a special emphasis on environmental education. The Institute's campus, given the waterfront location and vast areas of surrounding boreal forest, is the perfect environment for a program that is touted as being unmatched anywhere in the world.

The College is offering Grades 7 through 10 this fall which will operate on a semester system. They have plans to add Grade 11 in 2010 and Grade 12 the following year. The College also encourages foreign students and offers an ESL program (English as a second language) to assist with any language barriers. Students from various cultures or backgrounds are also welcomed into a healthy multicultural atmosphere. Included in the curriculum are a strong sports programme and a visual arts program supported by some of the top teaching artists in the Haliburton Highlands.

In an interview with the Voice, the Institute's General Manager Al Aubry said, "We're submitting an application under the Rural Economic Development Plan (called the RED Program) through the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. The RED Program is designed to create permanent employment in rural areas and the College will create a number of excellent teaching positions."

Aubry said, "This is a big undertaking and the grant applications are more successful if you can demonstrate community support through your municipal government and MPP. We're seeking all the letters of support that we can for the project."

According to Aubry, under the program the Institute won't receive any up front capital. If they're successful in their application

for funds however, they will be reimbursed for up to 50% of all eligible expenses.

"We need to make renovations in the dorms. If we're successful we'll spend as much as \$800,000 fixing up the residences and if they deem those as eligible expenses they would reimburse half of that," said Aubry. "It's a long process and we have to reinvest in teaching equipment, build curriculum and course plans, purchase equipment and computers as well as furniture and fixtures. We've already hired some teachers."

When asked about donations, Aubry said, "We have a number of private citizens that have been very helpful to us so far but we need the grant as well and hope our application will be successful."

Aubry said that the Institute also plans to provide sponsorships for disadvantaged children to attend the college. "We've established a registered charity to help fund the sponsorships. The Frost Centre for Environmental Studies is a non profit corporation but we can't give tax receipts to donors. As a registered charity we can when sponsorship monies are provided to allow kids to go to the summer camp and college."

Aubry said that 54 kids from Big Brothers & Big Sisters of

Canada were sponsored to attend the camp in 2007 and this summer 69 kids were sponsored. "The first summer we didn't have the registered charity set up so my wife Wendy and I sponsored the kids. This year we have the registered charity status in place and have received a number of sponsorships."

"When we open the college we plan to use this charity to sponsor kids to attend. You should see the feedback that we get from the kids that have been here. It's a life changing event for them."

Aubry was quite hopeful about their application to the RED Program. He said that a pre-application submission to the Government indicated that it would be worth going to the next step with a formal application. Once submitted, it will take at least 6 to 8 weeks to get a response.

In the meantime, the Algonquin Highlands Council passed a resolution supporting the application for funding. They expressed the importance of the Institute and the economic benefits that it will bring to both the Municipality and the County as a whole through job creation and tourism exposure. Council also agreed to consider a small financial contribution during their 2009 budget deliberations. ■

Barry Devolin's Excellent Ottawa Adventure

"Someone tapped me on the shoulder, I turned around, and there was Stephane Dion."

Haliburton – Kawartha Lakes – Brock Member of Parliament Barry Devolin used the occasion of the annual Warden's Dinner last Friday night to update his campaign to become Speaker of the House. "I must admit I had hoped to get past the fourth ballot, but it just wasn't to be. I know I had the second choice support of many NDP MPs, but I needed to make it onto that third ballot in order to capitalize on that."

"But it was a very interesting and valuable experience: when I made my speech to the House, from my seat in this new Parliament, I was able to look directly at the Prime Minister, Gilles Duceppe, Stephane Dion, and Jack Layton. And I had to begin my speech in French."

A few weeks ago Devolin had told the Voice of his strenuous efforts to improve his French, and how he has succeeded in becoming at least "functional, if not fluent." Well, functional is one thing, but speaking to the entire House in French was another. "I started my speech in French, and I must admit I needed to read it. I never use notes when I speak, but in French, that's another matter." After a few more ballots the House chose the incumbent Speaker, Peter Milliken, to serve another term. But the story didn't end there.

"The next day the Prime Minister called me and asked if I would be interested in becoming one of two Assistant Deputy Speakers (formally known as the Assistant Deputy Chair of the Committees of the Whole). These appointments must be agreed upon by the Speaker, of course, and by the leaders of the three opposition parties. I agreed, and it soon became clear that I had the support of Mr Layton and Mr. Duceppe: but from the Liberals, silence."

"Two days later I was sitting in the House during a recess when I felt a tap on the shoulder, looked around, and there was Stephane Dion. 'Would you have a minute to talk with me,' he said, in French of course. So off we went to another corner of the House where we discussed the job, in French, for a while. And so finally the deal was done."

In an interview with the Voice this week, Devolin said he's excited about his new responsibilities, and with the opportunity to work with the Speaker's team. "There are four of us who share the responsibilities of chairing the House, including Mr. Milliken. He takes the major responsibility, of course, handling matters of privilege, Question Period, and contentious debates. But in fact, my two colleagues and I will actually have more time in the chair each day than the Speaker himself, likely about two and a half hours each. And the Speaker did tell me that once we'd had some experience, we would each have a shot at chairing Question Period."

Devolin will, of course, still be able to deal with any constituency matter. "In fact, Ministers who might not be very quick in answering inquiries from a backbencher will certainly act quickly when a request comes from the Speaker's Office." ■

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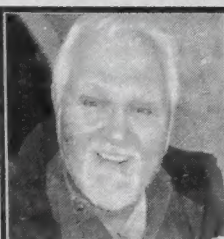
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"Danny, King of the Basement" Offers Insight into Child Poverty and Relationships

by George Farrell

Haliburton is one of the poorest counties in Ontario and some of our children go to school without a proper diet and adequate clothing.

The Ministry of Education is aware of this problem and has issued a \$10,000 grant to Archie Stouffer Elementary (ASES) in Minden. The monies will be directed to a project designed to alleviate the strain placed on lower income families of students attending ASES. Part of the grant will also go to seeking ways to sustain the project over years.

The Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario (ETFO) union is administering the grant, and to gain a greater understanding of what poverty means to students ETFO has provided grant recipients with a play called Danny, King of the Basement, which was designed for students, staff and selected guests.

The play was written by David S. Craig and it provides a timely, sensitive and creative opportunity for children and adults to learn about and discuss

issues related to poverty and homelessness, and how these and other family stresses impact on self esteem, friendship and success at school.

Last Friday morning, students from grades three through eight filed into the Archie Stouffer gymnasium and were treated to some intriguing theater. On the day before the play I talked to Principal Joan Harpell and teacher Barry Hicks. Barry is working with teachers Dianne Hagerman and Gina Stanley on the 'Danny Project' for the school.

"The union received \$3 million from the ministry of education to deal with the issues of poverty and how it impacts on children and their education," Harpell said. "And \$10,000 of that came to Archie Stouffer to help alleviate our situation here. Studies show that students who grow up in poverty tend to repeat the cycle. This initiative is an effort to break that cycle, and the play is not part of the grant, but in addition to it," he added. "It's meant to initiate conversation in the community, and with teachers and kids, and it's to help in removing stereotypes, and to change attitudes and stigmas associated with poverty."

"We've heard from teachers in other communities that the play is having a very positive effect in changing attitudes," said Harpell. "Research has shown that kids in poverty don't always come to school. They're embarrassed that they may not have a lunch or don't wear appropriate clothing. Once this was brought out in the open in our community, teachers took another view, and volunteers from organizations like the Rotary, parents organizations, the town council, banks, Ridgewood Ford and others have been giving of their time and money. This is a supportive community. Our breakfast club is supported by our school board and by private donors. Keith Burns and his wife Francis provide a coat exchange and they've been handing out coats in November for about 5 years now. We'd like to extend that and have something like that here, in the school. One little guy is always asking for shoes. So if he gets shoes, proper nutrition and clothing, he'll come to school and be in a proper frame of mind to learn," explained Hicks.

"Our school was chosen for this area because we were a kindergarten to grade 8 school with a bigger population than the others," said Harpell. "But we'll be sharing our information with our colleagues in the other schools in the area. We'll be submitting a proposal to ETFO in early December describing how we plan to spend the money. An ETFO member will provide feedback and guidance and then we'll proceed."

The play itself is a sort of send-off to the poverty initiative, and is meant to foster a better understanding of the situation. But the message doesn't end with the play. After the play is over, the actors go around to classes for workshops, where various aspects of the play are explored with teachers and students. In addition there are teacher's packages, scripts and information sheets that deal with things like the facts and myths pertaining to poverty.

"The idea is to make the messages from the play last through the programs that we create to sustain the initiative," said Hicks.

Danny is a funny and touching play about an 11-year-old boy and his mom Louise. They have moved eight times in two years because Louise can't find a steady job, and is often unable to pay the rent. Danny has developed a rich and wonderful fantasy life to help him cope with the transient nature of his life. He doesn't have much food, warm clothing or education, but he's rich with imagination as a means of self preservation and attracting new friends.

When Danny moves into a basement apartment in a middle class neighborhood the kids he meets seem to have way more problems than just being hungry. Upstairs lives pampered Penelope, who takes taxis to her ballet lessons, gets her hair done in expensive salons, and has separated parents who don't even talk to each other. Next door lives Angelo, with his rage-filled father and a mother who works two jobs. Danny turns life into a game of disguise which makes his neediness appear to be 'cool'. His sense of play creates a sense of community that allows Penelope and Angelo to cope with their problems, and ultimately to help Danny get a home. By building a community Danny shows how friendship can change lives. Danny opens doors for discussion, rather than providing answers.

The play is a production of the Roseneath Theatre Group. It stars Colin Doyle in the role of Danny, Zarrin Darnell Martin as Penelope, Julian Dezotti as Angelo and Astrid VanWeiren as Louise. Kathleen Harrison is the stage manager.

The entertaining and insightful play ended to tumultuous applause, and a standing ovation, and afterwards grade three student, Adrien Petric said, "I liked the way Danny used his imagination to make friends."

Holly Broderick, a grade eight student, said "I liked the different ways the play showed how you can be rich and poor. It's about more than money. You can be rich if you have friends and people who care about you."

Tanner Ballantyne, another grade eight student, thought his attitude would change "because we can't take things like reading for granted. A lot of people don't have the same things we have, and some of them don't learn to read because they're poor, and don't always go to school."

Students, it would seem, are quick to grab the concepts in Danny, King of the Basement, but educators, organizations and the community, will need to continue working together on breaking the poverty cycle. Thanks to the grant and Danny we've taken another couple of small steps in that direction. ■



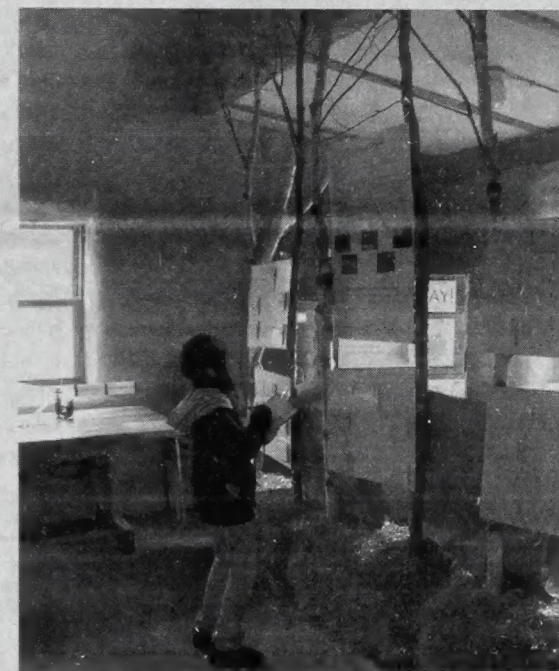
EcoSchool Program Kick-Off \$25,000 Grant Allows Kinark Outdoor Centre to Provide Educational Experience

At the end of last month, the Kinark Outdoor Centre kicked off their energy conservation program in their sustainable living classroom.

Kinark was the recent recipient of a \$25,000 grant from the Ministry of Energy Conservation Initiative program to subsidize 44 Grade 5 classes from the Trillium Lakelands District School Board so they could participate in the full-day programs.

The program gave students the chance to learn about energy conservation, consumption and about where energy comes from. The students came from Langton Public School in Fenelon Falls.

To book a class for the EcoSchool program or to receive more information, contact Jim McHardy, Kinark Outdoor Centre Director, at 705 286-3555. ■



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617 Mountain St., Haliburton



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Laurence Biog- rapher Keynote Speaker at HIFF

Boughton Traces Iconic Canadian Author's Roots

She perches very high on the comprehensive list of Canadian icons. An author who trudged from small prairie town to world stage. Margaret Laurence: author, laureate, activist, journalist and mentor.

Margaret Laurence wrote a great many books. She is maybe most remembered for *The Stone Angel*, but pinning Angel on Margaret Laurence would be a little like relegating Dickens to *A Christmas Carol*, or Twain to *Huck*. A multi-layered and sentient being, Laurence has been the target of much study, many biographies. Books like *Angel*, *A Bird in the House*, *A Gift of Grace* and *The Diviners* are required reading in Canadian schools.

Laurence wrote instinctively and she wrote from a heart imbued with that special gift of spiritual empathy.

The *Stone Angel*, the movie, starring Ellen Burstyn was Saturday evening's feature flick at the Haliburton International Film Festival -- held November 14th to 16th at the Northern Lights Pavilion. HIFF staff provided festival patrons with a treat before the premiere of the *Angel*, a presentation by renowned Laurence biographer Noelle Boughton.

Boughton, the author of *Margaret Laurence - A Gift of Grace: A Spiritual Biography* was invited to share her special insight at a pre-premiere get together held at McKeck's Place Saturday, November 15. She joined about 60 HIFF faithful for dinner and later gave a short presentation tracing Laurence's intricate and invigorating life.

A review calls Boughton's work "a stunning book that captures the spirituality and talent of one of Canada's most celebrated writers ... (and) communicates a great deal about the decency and complexity of both the author and Canadian culture."

Boughton brought a real cadence to her short presentation, outlining the reasons for her journey to document Laurence's layered and multi-faceted life, coupled with some very telling insights into Laurence's unique relationship with her writing. Like Laurence, Boughton grew up in a small town in southern Manitoba.

She completed her Bachelor of Arts in Canadian Studies at the University of Manitoba and Bachelor of Journalism (Honors) at Carleton University. She has been a newspaper and magazine journalist (also like Laurence), and an investigative researcher in television. Recently, she launched a women's body/mind/spirit group in Toronto and began to study theology.

Boughton says she feels a kinship, an empathy with Laurence and she adds it provided the initial impetus behind her biography of Laurence. "I had a feeling, in reading other biographies about Laurence, that they just weren't get-

ting it right," says Boughton. She grew up not far from Neepawa, Laurence's Manitoba home, and said that there were similarities in their childhoods. Boughton says she was not as driven as Laurence, but then again, was anyone so driven, so stamped to success? Destined to be a nurse, says Boughton, Laurence fought and persevered, and followed her dream to be a writer. She is compelling in that way, says Boughton. Laurence says Boughton was imbued with a literary spark from the age of six. She wrote many short stories from six to 14, and in her early teens decided to sway from her United Church roots and a sensible profession in nursing to strike

out and pursue her real passion, writing. Indeed, says Boughton, that perseverance, that desire to succeed is one of the touchstones of her biography. She explains that Laurence's inner faith and unilateral desire provided her with the wherewithal to struggle through financial insecurities and some early setbacks to become one of Canada's most revered authors.

"She was a tortured soul, but fell on her perseverance and her drive to become a writer," says Boughton. "What we do shows who we are and with Margaret Laurence it was her writing."

She says that a lot of Laurence's insights, especially in books like *The Stone Angel*, derive from her rural roots and her small town indoctrination with a life that is heavily invested in the notion of community. Long before Hillary Clinton told the world that "it takes a Village" Margaret Laurence was writ-

ing comprehensively about her travels in Africa, and

her experience with prairie grass roots populism. She told us in *Angel* and in *The Diviners* that we may find solace and reclamation in community. But Laurence also warned of special outcomes for those who shunned love and shut the doors on open lines of communication. Hagar Shipley, *Angel's* haggard and beleaguered soul, stands as fair warning to those of us who would not take John Donne's advice. "No man (or woman) is an island," wrote Donne, and that is the lesson we learn from Hagar, played so beautifully by Burstyn in the film version of *Angel* which premiered at the Haliburton Film festival on that same Saturday night. Hagar, says Boughton, is Laurence's cautionary mistress, a warning for those readers or film seekers who would let pride stand fulsome in the way of community, of family and tellingly, of love.

"Community is important, and it's a recurring theme in Laurence's writing," says Boughton. Rural Manitoba is infused with the entrepreneurial spirit, says Boughton, while adding that the Neepawa that Laurence grew up in also incorporated -- and does to this day -- a large number of Co-Op stores, businesses that relied heavily on membership, and progressive notions of social interaction stamped upon the marketplace. She added that Margaret Laurence carried that theme of family, of cooperation and social progression with her throughout her life.

"She became the first Chair of the Writers Union of Canada," says Boughton, adding that later in her career she took on a cherished role as mentor, as teacher and as friend to writers of many stripes. She was dedicated to her craft and unafraid to share, to give back to the many that followed in her footsteps. One of those writers, not coincidentally, is Boughton.

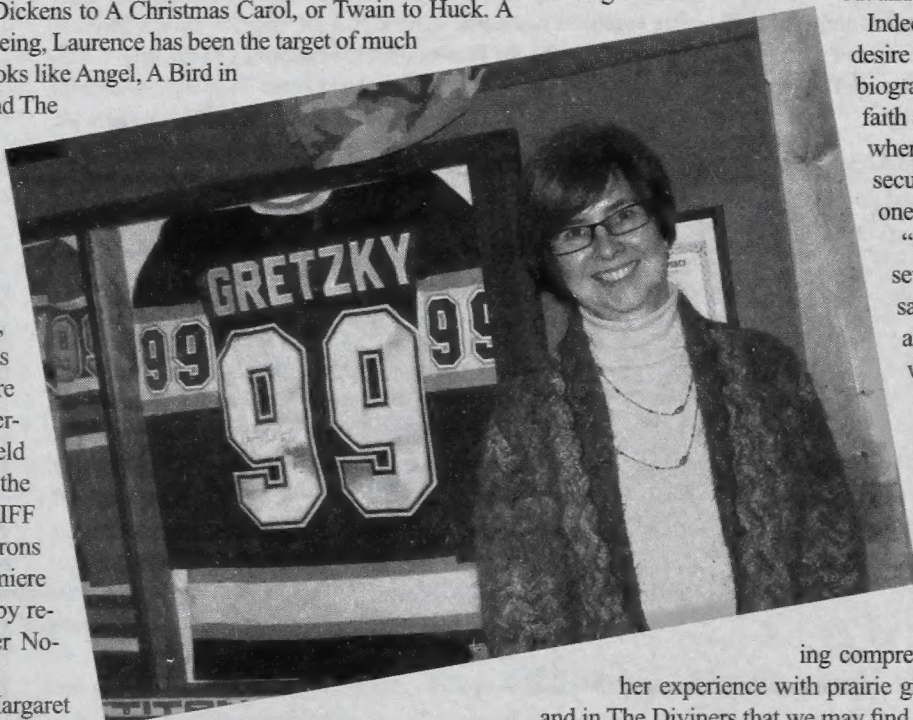
"Writers were her tribe, these were her people," says Boughton. She explains that through her tenure as writer in residence at three Canadian universities she never ceased to return the favor of writing.

"Throughout her later career as a teacher and mentor, she encouraged and she taught and she loved the generational exchange," says Boughton.

She also told a very attentive group of movie-goers anticipating a very special night out with Laurence's most perplexing and yet strangely compelling protagonist, the 91-year-old crotchety and misbegotten Hagar Shipley that Margaret Laurence was not without insight.

Fair warning perhaps, in words that might emanate from a United Church pulpit in rural Manitoba today. Words that Hagar Shipley had forgotten in the course of her disassembled, unenhanced life.

"As ye sow, so shall ye reap." ■



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Police Reports

MOTOR VEHICLE COLLI- SION



(Haliburton, ON.) – Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment were called to the scene of a personal injury accident on County Rd #21 at Halbiem Crescent yesterday morning.

The investigation revealed that a Chrysler was turning left out of Halbiem Crescent onto County Rd #21 when it was struck by a Pontiac Sunfire that was heading westbound on County Rd #21.

Members of the Dysart Fire Department and EMS personnel also attended the scene.

The driver of the Chrysler, Dean Chaulk 42 years of Dysart et al has been charged with Failing to Yield contrary to the Highway Traffic Act.

The driver of the Pontiac, Stephanie Maloley 49 years of the Township of Minden Hills was taken by ambulance to the Haliburton Hospital suffering from non-life threatening injuries. ■

DRIVER CHARGED

DRIVER CHARGED

(Haliburton, ON.) – Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment have charged a driver as a result of a R.I.D.E. program yesterday afternoon in Dorset.

The officer stopped the vehicle shortly after 3:00pm and had conversation with the driver. The driver subsequently failed a roadside screening device test and was arrested. She was then taken to the Haliburton Highlands Detachment.

Charged with Driving Over 80mgs is Wendy Taylor 54 years of Algonquin Highlands Township. Wendy Taylor will be appearing in Minden Court on January 7, 2009 in relation to the charge. ■

(Haliburton, ON.) – Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment have charged a driver as a result of a traffic stop yesterday afternoon on Highway #35 in Minden Hills Township.

An officer was patrolling Highway #35 when he observed a white Volkswagen heading northbound on Highway #35 at a high rate of speed. The vehicle was stopped and the driver was spoken to.

Charged with Racing (Doing more than 50 km/h over the posted speed limit) contrary to the Highway Traffic Act is Debbie Matthews 43 years of Oakwood.

Drivers are reminded to reduce their speeds in adverse driving conditions and to increase their following distance. ■

Illegal Hunting Charge

A Tory Hill man has been fined \$1000 for illegal deer hunting.

David Nuttall, 43, was fined \$1,000 for hunting deer on Sunday in a non designated municipality.

Court was told that on Sunday, November 18, 2007, Nuttall shot and killed a mature white-tailed deer with a high powered rifle in Monmouth Township in the Municipality of Highlands East, where Sunday gun hunting was not permitted in 2007.

Minden area conservation officers investigated the offence and also seized the deer.

Hunters are reminded to check the current hunting regulations to see where Sunday hunting is allowed. The Hunting Regulations Summary 2008-2009 is available free of charge from licence issuers, ServiceOntario/Government Information Centres and on the ministry's website at ontario.ca/hunting.

Justice of the Peace Dianne Jackson heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice in Lindsay on November 21, 2008.

To report a natural resources violation, call 1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667) toll-free any time or contact your local ministry office during regular business hours. You can also call Crime stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS 8477. ■

Laurie Scott Challenges Teen Driving Legislation

Last week the Ontario Government of Premier Dalton McGuinty introduced legislation that would, for example, put severe limits on the number of people teenagers would be able to drive, enforce a no-alcohol requirement, along with other restrictions. In the Legislature on Monday Haliburton – Kawartha Lakes – Brock MPP Laurie Scott rose to make the following comment on the legislation.

"I would like to share some comments and e-mails which I have received since the introduction of Bill 126, the Road Safety Act, 2008.

From a 17-year-old resident: "I'm not sure why or how this part was thought up, but someone did not think it through. Is there not a climate crisis right now? Teenagers who planned on carpooling are now risking their licence. I will not be able to pick up my friends on the way to school in order to save them gas ... I now cannot volunteer to be the designated driver."

From a mother in rural Ontario: "Out here we drive 80 to 120 kilometres to play a game of hockey. In the city you have buses, taxis and the subway. Here we have nothing and everything is a drive. Pull your heads out of the city and don't make another law that hurts rural Ontario."

Another e-mail: "I understand the frustration behind the bill but this is the wrong way to handle this situation. Much consultation needs to be done before acting in haste."

We can all agree in this Legislature that the lives of young people are precious and we should do what we can to learn from and help prevent further tragedies on our roads. But legislation needs to be sensible, reasonable and enforceable, as well as taking into account the practicalities of living. The official opposition requests the Minister of Transportation and the Premier to ensure that a full slate of public input hearings is enabled and this group must include rural Ontario.

In my experience, I know that most young drivers take that privilege very seriously. They take their driver education and improvement courses and they do their part to be responsible and safe young citizens. Bill 126 is a serious piece of legislation that will drastically change the law for Ontario's young drivers. Please let them be heard." ■

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While quantities last.

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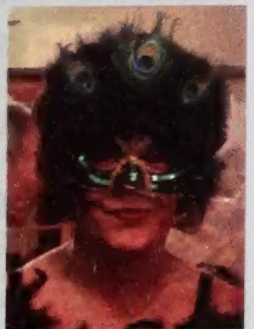
The Enchanted Masquerade Ball

Music, Food, Auction, Wine Tasting and Dance Highlight Annual Gala

The Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) held its annual Fundraising Dinner and Dance at the Wigamog Inn last weekend and raised a total of \$12,000. A total of 105 guests were treated to a Wine Tasting presented by Lacey Cellars as well as a silent auction featuring donations from many local businesses.

The highlight of the evening, besides the extraordinary costume and mask worn by Ommh Hairdressing Owner Shawn Smandych, was excerpts from the Nutcracker performed by members of Haliburton's Heritage Ballet (see accompanying story on page ...)

The HHHSF will donate a portion of the proceeds to the Heritage Ballet. ■



Heritage Ballet

The World's Most Popular Ballet Returns to Haliburton



This year marks the fifth annual production of the Heritage Ballet's production of The Nutcracker in Haliburton's Northern Lights Pavilion on Saturday, December 13th at 7:30 pm and on Sunday December 14th at 2:00 pm.

Heritage Ballet's Nutcracker production is produced by the company's founder, Julie Barban,

based on choreography from the National Ballet of Canada, The New York City Ballet, and the American Ballet Theatre. Ms. Barban has been a successful ballet teacher for the past 15 years in Toronto, Calgary and Haliburton. She and her husband Ian Anderson moved to Haliburton in 1998, where they live and raise their two children, Kameron (12) and Julian (4).

Julie Barban first studied dance in her native Sault Ste. Marie before attending Ryerson's University's Dance School in Toronto. She started teaching with Dance Space in 1993, then taught for four years in Calgary. "I've always loved the Nutcracker, and was delighted to be able to bring it to Haliburton. I established Heritage Ballet here in Haliburton in 2001 and we presented our first Nutcracker in our second year. The work is very demanding, but the children, the volunteers, and the parents have always been there for us." The production has over 50 dancers, the costumes (made by Dani Smolen, Barb Fraser, and a host of volunteers) are spectacular: all the hard work started back in September.

The Nutcracker is based on the short story written by E.T.A. Hoffman in Germany in 1816, and was a bleak tale of a unloved little girl whose dolls are attacked by the vicious seven-headed mouse king and his soldiers. A milder version was written in the late 19th century by Alexander Dumas pere, and it's this version, with a happy ending, that is the basis for the ballet. The great Russian composer Tchaikovsky was commissioned to set the piece to music and a selection of the scenes were first performed as a Suite in March of 1892 in St. Petersburg. This Suite became instantly very popular, but the full ballet did not reach a wide audience until the 1960s. Since then it's become perhaps the most popular ballet in history, delighting audiences around the world each Christmas.

Last weekend the Heritage Ballet performed selected scenes from The Nutcracker at the Enchanted Masquerade Ball at the Wigamog Inn as part of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation's annual fund raiser. The dancers performed at different times during the evening, and as Julie Barban points out, that was particularly fitting: "Ballet started off as an entertainment for the court between courses at banquets."

Tickets for this year's production are available at Baubles N' Bon Bons in Haliburton, and Pharmasave in Minden. They are just \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. ■

Get Your Tickets for the Riverwalk Lottery

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How would you like to have a shot at winning a night's stay at a local resort with dinner for two? Or maybe you'd enjoy taking in a night of hockey with the Toronto Maple Leafs in action.

You still have a chance to win these and many other prizes in The Riverwalk Lottery Draw. Tickets are being sold for this fundraiser that will help to fund phase

two of Minden's Riverwalk Project. Riverwalk is an initiative of the Friends of Minden Hills and the Haliburton Highlands.

The Riverwalk project will help to make the town of Minden more visually attractive and inviting to drivers, pedestrians and tourists. One of the main goals of the project is to create a hub for social and cultural activities and attractions that will be in close proximity to the main street and the river.

The completed project will include a trail/walkway system around the Gull River, a pedestrian bridge crossing the river, a wetland trail, a covered walkway bridge, new lighting and more.

"It all started out as a vision," explains Laura Cunliffe, Secretary and Treasurer for Friends of Minden Hills/Riverwalk Committee. "A vision to better use the riverbanks, create pathways and install sculptures." Cunliffe says that Linnea Baynton, former owner of the Wild Swan, was first to see that vision.

Back in October of 2003, the Riverwalk Committee first retained the services of Basterfield & Associates Landscape Architects to prepare a Master Plan for the Minden Riverwalk. The purpose of the Master Plan is to outline the plans of the development and list the project's costs. The public was also given the opportunity to have their say about the project during four public consultation sessions that were held between March and August of 2004.

This year the Riverwalk Committee received two grants for the project, one for \$40,000 from the Trillium Foundation and another \$40,000 that came from the Haliburton County Development Cor-



poration (HCDC). The Township of Minden Hills has also provided financial assistance. With these grants, the committee is expected to contribute to the project through fundraising.

"We still need to raise \$2,000 to meet our commitment," said Cunliffe. "We still need to get out there and pound the pavement."

And that's why the committee organized the Riverwalk Lottery Draw along with the assistance of the Minden Rotary Club. Tickets are on sale for \$5 each or you can buy three at a discounted price of \$10. The tickets are available at places around the County includ-

ing: Moose FM, The Dominion Hotel, The Village Chalet, the County Info Centre, the township office, the Minden Community Centre, McMahon Feeds N' Needs and from members of the Riverwalk Committee.

The final draw for the many prizes will take place at the Township of Minden Hills Christmas party that is open to the public after 9 p.m. at the community centre.

As of last week, asphalt for the pathway along the Gull River was near completion. The foundation for the bridge is expected to commence sometime at the start of 2009.

For more information about the project or to reserve lottery tickets contact Laura Cunliffe at 705 286-1312 or email her lcunliffe@mindenhills.ca. ■

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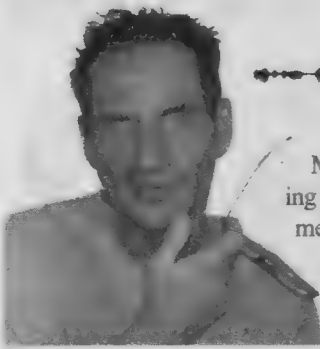
-Tony Dorsett

Thursday, Nov. 27, 2008

PAGE 14

Basketball this time round

My playground skip with Barack



Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

My very early years I spent playing hoops on the hardscrabble cement courts in Ottawa's Sandy Hill, a hoops paradise surrounded by a phalanx of four-storey, red brick walk-ups. Living on Goulbourn Crescent, that's what you did all summer.

Watch the older 'legends' hearken Oscar Robertson, Jerry West and Bill Russell, whiling away the springs and summers, spinning, juking and jiving on the haggard courts. And when they left, the young kids, young starry-eyed plunkers like me, got to play, shoot around and otherwise drill tirelessly on 15-foot hanging jumper till dusk drooped drearily into another July day.

On those Sandy Hill courts in the Goulbourn Project, I learned to dribble, to hawk, and I learned the only three plays in basketball. Oh, you will look to those NBA playbooks and call me stupid. You will allude to those well-stretched Xs and insipid Os drawn so lovingly on those newfangled dry erase court replicas and you will tell me there are 10,000 plays in the naked hardwood city.

You would be wrong. There are two commandments, not ten,

and there are three plays in Dr. Naismith's beautifully constructed game. From two absolutes dribble the rest of those 10 amendments to the Golden Rules: Love thy neighbor as thyself; and do unto others as you would have them. And in basketball, the pretty picket fence, Mississippi Quicksand trap, The Kansas Shuffle, the rolling triangle, the 3-2, the 2-3, the 1-3-1 and the transcendently and multi-layered philosophies pattered in Pat Riley or Phil Jackson playbooks, with the squiggles, droops and gee-gaws, all flow flawlessly, flimsily from the triune Holy Grail of Hoops Law. Three plays. Only three.

Give and go, pick and roll, back door. That's it folks. Basketball redux. Three and only three. From these three the house of cards is built.

I learned that in Sandy Hill. When I first picked up a ball. When I played my first playground game of three on three. Three on three is the game. I learned that when I was six.

On the Goulbourn Project courts. The macadam was cracked and worn and the lines were wobbled and bleached by a decade of summer sun, burnished to a beige from intended white.

I learned to play there with some guys who later went on to play at Lisgar Collegiate, Ottawa's perennial basketball power way back in the 60s and 70s. I learned from Paul Armstrong, the Stoqua brothers and from the Love brothers that there are but those three plays, and the rest trickles from there.

I moved away from Sandy Hill in the mid-sixties to Nepean, just a few blocks down from the high school I would attend. St Pius X Preparatory Seminary was its mildly intimidating moniker back when I first attended

in 1968. We were an all-boys school back then and in my first year in grade nine I think we had 422 students. A lot of priests lived at the school. We also had boarders, students who lived there five or seven days a week.

My uncle Joe Gavan was the treasurer of the school and another uncle, the irrepressible Rev Donald Francis Gavan was the principal. (I won't even get into my aunts' contribution to the mix. Suffice to say that the Gavan family imprimatur on Pius X was indelible and lasting.) I spent most of my waking hours in the old gym. Uncle Joe had a while house on the edge of campus, and halfway through my freshman year, the old gym became my second home. Uncle Joe would come roaring in, seeing the lights on at 10:30 pm, and he had one of those unpredictable Irish tempers. He would peruse the gym and if he saw me, he would frown and then smile. "Make sure you turn the lights out when you leave ... before midnight." Uncle Joe was unpredictable, but I was a favorite. If I didn't happen to be there, the game would be shut down and uncle Joe would oversee the closure. We played basketball every night from 7 to 10 pm and there were some nights I remember going to midnight. It's why Pius remained a basketball power back in the 60s and 70s. Unfettered access to the Grail. Two cross-court games going all night long. Pick and roll, back door, give and go. And the credo ... no blood no foul.

On the dais of the pickup game, I learned early, that the measure of a man - or a boy - could be ascertained by how he handles the pressure of the game. The knocks, the jarring pick, the knee, the elbow and

the quick slap on dribble drive. I learned to mediate mettle on the floor, to get a sense of the measure of a man, in the way he would handle the tempo of the game.

Last summer, I discovered a news piece written by Jodi Kantor of the New York Times. "Sports has been used, correctly or incorrectly, as a personality decoder for presidents and presidential aspirants. So, armchair psychologists and fans of athletic metaphors, take note: Barack Obama is a wily player of pickup basketball, the version of the game with unspoken rules, no referee and lots of elbows. He has been playing since adolescence, on cracked-asphalt playgrounds and at exclusive health clubs, developing a quick offensive style, a left-handed jump shot and relationships that have extended into the political arena."

That churned some wheels. I wanted to do a piece on Barack, but I knew the interview would be a tough nut to crack.

So instead of the interview request I went with the gyp and flip, dippy doodle dive.

I wrote an email to the candidate last May and asked him for a game. I told the good Senator that I grew up playing mostly pickup ball, and I challenged him to some one-on-one. I told him I was a sportswriter and I said that if I won, he would promise me an interview in January of 2009, just after the inauguration. (I'm an optimist, what can I say - and I also saw the tide risin') And, I added, that if I came up on the plus side, I would also get to participate in the first full-fledged game of three-on-three at the newly installed White House basketball court. I told him in the email that building the courts in the White House should be his first redecorating move.

I sent the email under the sportswriter's motto of last resort. "Nothing ventured, nothing gained."

I got a phone call the next day. "Hold for Senator Obama," said the young male voice on the other end.

"Sure," I said. I hadn't told anyone of my hasty decision to write an ill-advised email to Obama, so I figured it was legit.

"Okay, Gav, can I call you Gav," said the unmistakable voice of the Illinois Senator.

"Of course Senator, if I can call you O?" I replied. I remembered that I had signed the email with my simple "cheers, gav" endline.

We set up a game of one-on-one for the following week, at a high school gym in South Bend, Indiana.

He had a busy day planned. We decided on a quick game to five. Two rather large men in suits hovered close by. We played playground. He gave me first ball. He's a lefty and I hate playin' southpaws. My first move was a juke left, roll right, hammer through to the basket, quick flip and reverse finger roll and I'm up.

Scorer keeps ball and I looked in his eyes as he checked ball and fired it back to me. And I saw all I needed to see in those eyes. "Game on, gav ... game on."

On my next drive the good Senator popped a shoulder, placed me on my butt and picked me up. "My bad ... your ball."

I shook my head and flipped him the ball. "Playground rules Senator, no blood no foul."

He scored the next five. I never saw the ball again. He trash-talked me at 4-1 and then went left to the twine with a short pull-up.

We shook hands. The eyes were smiling once again, the steel was gone.

"You really think I should build a court in the White House?"

"Senator, we've had eight years of that baseball bumpkin's administration, I really think the nation could use a change," I laughed.

I got a call yesterday.

"Gav?" said the voice on the other end.

"Yes Senator?" I replied.

"The White House court's on the way, we'll see you for that game of three-on-three sometime early February."

"But I lost," I said. "The deal hinged on me winning."

"Call it a compromise," laughed the President elect.

"Okay," I said. "But, I get Larry Bird and Magic Johnson ... think you can pull those strings Mr. President?"

"Look Gav, we just popped Hillary as Secretary of State ... after that ... Bird and Magic? Piece of cake."

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How do I know? I saw it in the eyes ... on the hardwood.

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Hal High defeats Kenner in home opener

Terrance Gavan

Sports Editor

High school hockey rule number one states:

"There shall be no counting of not quite matriculated domestic fowl before they have emitted unencumbered from the shell."

Okay, cue Kevin Spacey. You know the dealio. Pay it Forward. This is when he points to the dictionary and says "You may look that up after class."

My take on that? "Hey Teach, my mum and dad shell good money for you to provide information, capiche? So stifle with the profundity and just clue us in ... and what the heck is a dictionary, by the way?"

All right, so here's the skinny. The quixotic little rule goes to rising expectations and the gist of that unexpurgated aphorism is: "Don't count your chickens before they've hatched." As Yogi Berra or Kevin Stacey both said: "You could look it up."

Ron Yake is a firm believer in fate, fitness and guarded optimism. So, with all of the success the Red Hawk hockey team have encountered thus far into their still young season, including a 6-1 drubbing of visiting Kenner High last Monday evening at the Dysart Emporium, the Red Hawk coach likes to tread the fine line of controlled exuberance.

Co-coach and high school principal Gary Brohman was awfully happy as he left the arena last Monday, observers noting a little jump in his step as he left the dressing room shortly after congratulating his squad. Yake took time to smile in a post game scrum, but also wanted to make it abundantly clear that it's a young team and there is still a lot of hockey to play before the season winds wearily to denouement in March.

"Well, at the start of the season we weren't quite sure what we had," said Yake after the big win last Monday. "But we've played a few games together now and we're starting to see some really good things. The boys are playing with good intensity and we have a good nucleus of returning players."



Indeed, high on that roster of returnees are the two backstops, Paddy Manuge and Alex Monk Cray. Manuge was on a sniper's edge of a shutout until a Kenner power play opportunity late in the second served to spoil a perfect game for the veteran crease buff. The Hawks led 3-0 after one period and stretched that lead to 6-1 at the end of two.

The Hawks simply played kitty bar the door for the duration of the final frame. "I know he wasn't tested that much tonight, but that's a credit to our defense which also played really well tonight," said Yake.

The return of both goalies, seven skaters and the addition of a solid cadre of talented new players bodes well for the Hawks.

All told, the team has made a pretty profound statement over the last two weeks.

The Hawks captured the bronze medal at the annual Falcon Fest Tournament held in Fenelon Falls last weekend. They beat Dunbarton from Pickering 4-2 in the bronze medal match-

up. Josh Townsend led the Red Hawk charge with 2 goals, Carson Roberts scored once and Keaton Gadway added the empty net insurance marker to seal the deal.

In their first league game of the season the Hawks defeated Fenelon 5-1. Matt Rae, Mark Vasey, Ian Bottum, Ashton Haley, and Ryan Sherwood all scored single markers in the contest.

"We have a nice mix of veterans and new players," said Yake. He says that it's a team that also translates well to the variance in surfaces, a hallmark of this high school league, where venues run the gamut of large and small centers. "It's a good skating club, we'll be able to play on the larger ice surfaces as well," said Yake.

The Hawks dominated Kenner in all facets of the game last Monday. Vasey and Haley led all scorers with a goal and two assists apiece. Brett Yake, DJ Howorko, Roberts, and Townsend all contributed singles to round out the scoring.

The Hawks traveled to Norwood for a tilt on Wednesday and they play again at Dysart Emporium next Monday against Thomas Aquinas. Game time is 7:15 pm. ■

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Minden stops Shield streak at 15 Kings rally to defeat number one team

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

Confronted with a coaching controversy, facing the number one team in the Greater Metro Hockey League – a team on a 15 game winning streak – and down by two goals heading into the third period, the River Kings could probably have been forgiven for pulling the plug early last Sunday.

But, as the growing and loyal Minden River King fan base will tell you, this is a team that seems to thrive on adversity. Their sweaters bear the image of a hard shelled snapping amphibian but this team is not known for turning turtle when things get dicey.

Last Sunday, at the SG Nesbitt Barn, this River King team persevered and proved that their “no-quit threshold” is quite literally off the charts.

Down 3-1 heading into the third period against Gravenhurst’s prepossessing South Muskoka Shield, the River Kings rallied for a four goal explosion, the final game winning tally coming via the always exciting penalty shot, the eventual game winner delivered from the stick of the Minnesota Maestro, the ever-steady Brett Meyers. The Maestro also scored the River Kings’ first goal of the game, off a stellar drive at the



midway point of the second period. The penalty shot goal, a sure-handed wrister that eluded sharp Shield goaltender Eric Pye, won the game, earning the Kings a well-deserved and hard fought 5-4 comeback victory. Ultimately it’s a win that will stand the test of scrutiny, because it came on the heels of hard work, great defensive play and some renewed pop on the forward edge.

Goals by Tyler Crego, David Igararashi and Lane Schmid came sandwiched between Meyers’ twin markers. They all came in the third period and they came by way of the outstanding effort of that dogged pressing attack of the hungry and bothersome checking line. Body, bother and bump is the keynote theme of this heady group of young skaters. Their determination and drive paid big final frame dividends last Sunday as Crego, Hunter and company tuned their scopes to pinpoint precision, popping stop-gap bodies between puck and Shield on every turn on ice. They befuddled the Shield skaters with a bump and run attack which led, by the way, to some excellent scoring chances and some hard won tallies.

Crego, Devin Hunter and Schmid form a triumvirate of local players and they played huge roles in the victory, a victory which broke up that 15 game winning streak. Crego was strong on both ends, but he was most effective on the forecheck, playing killer bee buzzkill to the quick hitting Shield break out strategy. Schmid was strong on the blueline and Hunter played his usual steady game, finishing the check and making some heads-up passing plays. Captain Toby Kathan contributed the cool head under fire and managed to calmly control some tempo when the Shield pressed their cause.

The difference last Sunday? The Kings played a disciplined third period, finished checks and didn’t allow themselves to become involved in the extra-curricular juke and jive antics that

can disrupt the flow of their game.

Young Andrew Selbie, who played an outstanding game between the Minden pipes, added significantly to the win as well, playing a stellar game against the very strong, cat-quick and super-sniping Shield club.

The River Kings, finally started clicking like they can. And in a game that set the stage for a saw-off between GMHL scoring leaders, they made a firm statement. To wit: Move over Travis Saltz, the Minnesota Maestro is snapping at your heels. The Kings held GMHL scoring leader Travis Saltz scoreless, as in nada. Now they’ll tell you that the personal stats come second. That’s okay too, but on this night the tally sheet read Maestro 2 – Saltz 0.

Saltz did make it to the game sheet, earning a penalty in the first period and a misconduct late in the third, a penalty coincidentally, for arguing the merits of the awarding of the Meyers penalty shot with just 5:38 remaining in the game.

That took the league’s finest sharpshooter off the ice for the balance of the game. No Saltz no spice for Gravenhurst as they tried

hard to pepper Selbie for salvation and the tying tally in the final minutes.

Whether or not this will form the backdrop of benchmark on their season, well time will tell. The Sunday night contest was but one of three games the Kings participated in last weekend. The other two tilts did not end nearly as well.

The Kings dropped a 9-2 decision to Innisfil Lakers on the road last Friday night. They lost 8-3 to Toronto Canada Moose on Saturday evening.

The win on Sunday came on the heels of a huge shift in team demographics. On Sunday afternoon the team was informed that they would be heading into the final two-thirds of their season without the services of now former head coach Mike Jeschke. (See accompanying story on Jeschke’s resignation in this section.)

Brooks Robinson, Jeschke’s former assistant was behind the bench on Sunday night. “I can’t really say anything about the situation,” said a conflicted Robinson after the game last Sunday. “Look Mike’s my main man, this is his team and we won this game tonight playing his system, so it’s really tough for me to comment right now.” Team co-owner Ken Girard said that Jeschke’s resignation had nothing to do with the team record or Jeschke’s competence behind the bench.

Robinson then, is now 1-0 as head coach of the River Kings, and he had nothing but praise for his charges, who he said, “played their hearts out tonight.”

He was impressed with all facets of his team’s play. “I’m proud of all the guys tonight ... what can you say about Brett (Meyers)?” said Robinson. “Look this was one of the most stressful days of my life, I’m just happy it turned out so well for the guys tonight. They went out and beat the best team in the league, and they ended a 15 game winning streak, that’s pretty impressive. I can’t say enough about the heart of these guys.”

At the same time he gave full dues to the departing coach. “They played Mike’s game to the letter in the third period tonight,” said Robinson.

The Kings have no home game this weekend, but are on the road against Espanola Kings on Saturday November 29th. Game time in Espanola is 8 pm.■



A Place to Build Memories

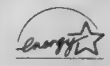
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Life of the Party Students Invent Headache-Free “Mocktails”

A martini, sir? Certainly. How about our “Brain Freeze Sober Slupper”? A.... What? Well, maybe James Bond wouldn’t be impressed, but dozens of Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) students were last week when three teams of enthusiastic mixologists blended up a storm over lunch hour. Each student team invented a unique alcohol-free cocktail which they mixed and served to a panel of judges.

The Life of the Party challenge was organized with the Haliburton Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPR) to mark Drug Awareness Week in Ontario in co-operation with the Student Activity Council’s Health and Wellness program headed by Robbie Balaski.

Karen Pettinella, an event organizer and a public health nurse with the HKPR, pointed out that an Ontario survey conducted last year found that nearly half of Grade 11 and Grade 12 students surveyed said they had been ‘binge drinking’ in the previous month. Binge drinking refers to consuming five or more alcohol drinks on one occasion. “We’re trying to make the point that you can still have a lot of fun and avoid alcohol-based drinks. These cocktails are delicious, and socially acceptable.”

The “Chiquita Banana Dream” was created by a five-person team of Lindsay Snelgrove, Ashley McAllister, Chloe Kitchenman, Lindsay Hawley, and Emily Stonehouse and consisted of frozen vanilla yoghurt, raspberries, strawberries, a little mango, topped with ship cream and cocoa. The “Sober Sauce”, by Sierra Kletke and Kristine Barry, combined strawberries, orange juice, cranberry cocktail, and 7-up. The “Brain Freeze Sober Slupper” blended coconut milk, vanilla yoghurt, frozen strawberries and a frozen banana and was invented by Shawn Kadwell and Mike Mazara. All ingredients were donated by Todd’s Independent, and prizes were donated by Algonquin Outfitters/Boatwerks and Aramark Caterers at HHSS.

After serious consideration by the two panels of judges, the grand prize went to the “Brain Freeze”, second prize to the “Sober Sauce”, and third to the “Banana Dream”. This is the contest’s fourth year, and reflects increasing concern from students, public health officials, and parents about what’s seen as the increasing prevalence of alcohol and drug abuse among teenagers. ■



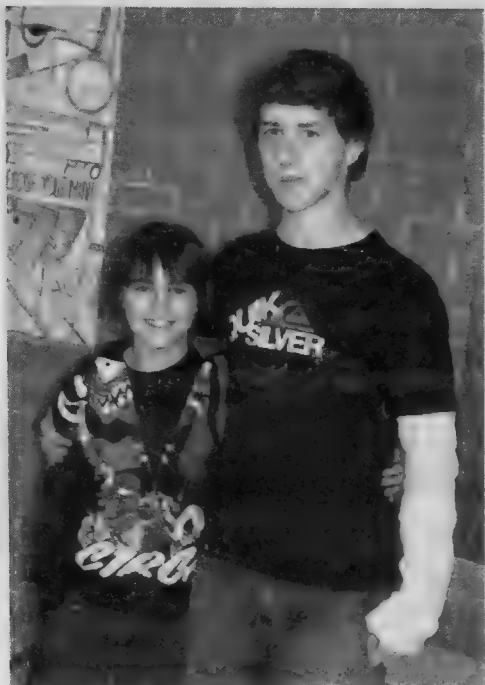
Mixers Mix... and the teams get to work.



The judges judge.



Your martini is served.



Winners, Mike Mazara and Shawn Kadwell

Thank You!

The 2nd Annual Haliburton International Film Festival & 48-Create Challenge Weekend was a huge success, thanks to the many people that made it happen! Thank you to our sponsors: RBC Dominion Securities, First Page SEO, Royal LePage Lakes of Haliburton, Wind in the Willows Day Spa, Avery Audio, Randy’s Tree Care, County Commercial Printers, Emmerson Lumber, Yours Outdoors, Haliburton County Development Corporation, The Pump Shop, Magic Touch Day Spa, Barb Bolin, Heather Alloway, Barry Hart

Thank you to: The Agnes Jamieson Gallery, The Rail’s End Gallery, Canoe FM, Haliburton Echo, Minden Times and Highland’s Communicator.

A special thank you to all our volunteers, our guest speakers Noelle Boughton and Charles Taylor and especially to all of the talented 48-Create filmmakers. Many Thanks to everyone who supported this year’s festival!

The Those Other Movies Committee:
Roberta Coles, Lisa Kerr, Tammy Rea, Marci Mandel

THOSE OTHER MOVIES - Next movie is: Saint Ralph

Date: Thursday **DECEMBER 4** 4:15 & 7:15pm
Tickets sold at the Northern Lights Pavilion door before each show.



www.haliburton-movies.com

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ISAAC ASIMOV'S SUPER QUIZ

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Subject: OCCUPATIONS
Provide the occupation or field of work for which the person is best known. (e.g., Florence Nightingale. Answer: Nurse.)

FRESHMAN LEVEL

- 1. Bjorn Borg
Answer: _____
- 2. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Answer: _____
- 3. Harry Houdini
Answer: _____

GRADUATE LEVEL

- 4. Naomi Campbell
Answer: _____
- 5. Emily Dickinson
Answer: _____
- 6. Jimi Hendrix
Answer: _____

PH.D. LEVEL

- 7. Ratan Tata
Answer: _____
- 8. Mary Quant
Answer: _____
- 9. Friedrich Nietzsche
Answer: _____

ANSWERS: 1. Tennis player. 2. Author. 3. Magician (escape artist). 4. Model. 5. Poet. 6. Guitarist (singer, songwriter). 7. Businessman (India). 8. Fashion designer. 9. Philosopher.

SCORING:

18 points — congratulations, doctor; 15 to 17 points — honors graduate; 10 to 14 points — you're pretty smart, but no grind; 4 to 9 points — you really should hit the books harder; 1 point to 3 points — enroll in remedial courses immediately; 0 points — who reads the questions to you?

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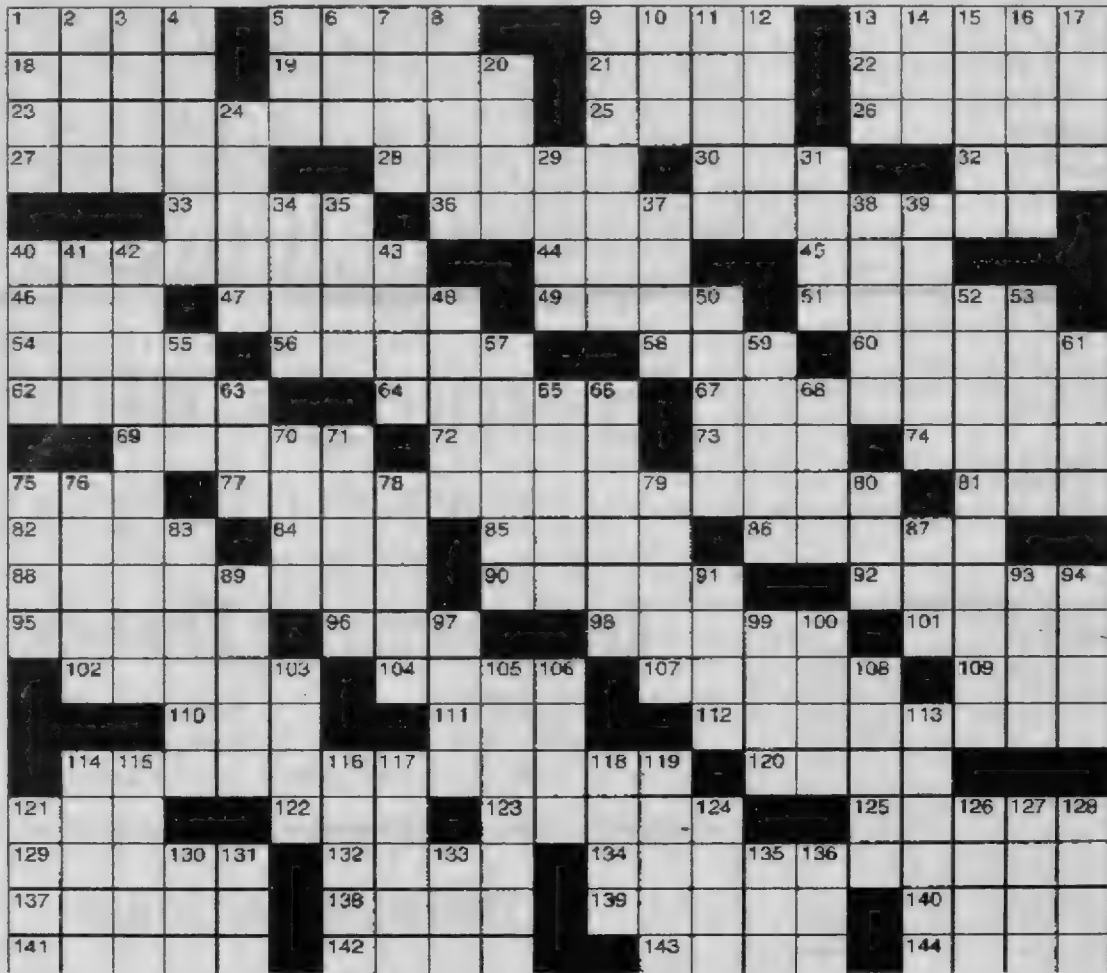
Super Crossword

ONCE IS ENOUGH

- ACROSS**

 - 1 Not quite closed
 - 5 "Song of the South" title
 - 9 Perched on
 - 13 Tom of "Barrett"
 - 18 — Linda, CA
 - 19 Snorkel and straw
 - 21 Capital of American Samoa?
 - 22 — Lama
 - 23 "The Flintstones" kid?
 - 25 Word on a door
 - 26 Dumbstruck
 - 27 Hacienda material
 - 28 New Archangel, now
 - 30 Devour
 - 32 Summer shade
 - 33 "The — Hurrah" ('58 film)
 - 35 Golfing legend?
 - 40 Crestfallen
 - 44 Volleyball divider
 - 45 Bar supply
 - 46 — Jima
 - 47 Bitter kin
 - 48 Limber with language
 - 51 Dislodge
 - 54 Enormous
 - 56 Mideastern pockets
 - 58 Sea plea
 - 60 Cultural character
 - 62 Composer
 - 64 Lloyd Webber musical
 - 67 Leslie Charteris creation
 - 69 Overflowing
 - 72 — impasse
 - 73 Toody or Muldoon
 - 74 Eye problem
 - 75 NYC division
 - 77 Robert Conrad series?
 - 81 Flat hat
 - 82 Broccoli —
 - 84 Nutritional abbr.
 - 85 Tabriz currency
 - 86 Sordid
 - 88 South American capital
 - 90 Subway feature
 - 92 22 Across' home
 - 95 Proclamations
 - 96 "Platoon" setting
 - 98 — garde
 - 101 Stromboli spew
 - 102 Gown part
 - 104 Temporary calm
 - 107 Girl
 - 109 George?
 - 110 Tuck's mate
 - 111 Dovecote sound
 - 112 "— Rita" ('42 film)
 - 113 Contend
 - 114 Eddie Cantor song?
 - 120 Pay to play
 - 121 TV's "People — Funny"
 - 122 Pair
 - 123 Harden
 - 125 Brando's birthplace
 - 129 "Gladiator" extra
 - 132 Southern st.
 - 134 NY correctional facility?
 - 137 "The Jungle Book" character
 - 138 Martin Balsam film?
 - 139 Passover meal
 - 140 Pkg. abbr.
 - 141 Stephen Vincent —
 - 142 Cruise
 - 143 Major —
 - 144 Kansas city
- DOWN**

 - 1 Jessica of "Dark Angel"
 - 2 "The Grapes of Wrath" surname
 - 3 Snowballs, sometimes
 - 4 Wander
 - 5 A/C measure
 - 6 Massage
 - 7 Peters out
 - 8 Antique
 - 9 Garments
 - 10 Homeric character
 - 11 Looked like Lothario?
 - 12 — bear
 - 13 Author LeShan
 - 14 Greyhound's greeting
 - 15 Make merry
 - 16 South American capital
 - 17 Jennifer of "Star Trek: Voyager"
 - 20 Son of Adam
 - 24 Aitain
 - 29 Sergeant Preston's dog
 - 31 Buster Brown's dog
 - 34 Tread
 - 35 Actress Hatcher
 - 37 Singer Redding
 - 38 Donates
 - 39 Legendary Colt Johnny
 - 40 Callas or Caballe
 - 41 Actor McGregor
 - 42 Olympic skater?
 - 43 Act like grandma
 - 48 Maritime
 - 50 Mess (up)
 - 52 Dick Van Dyke film?
 - 53 Mrs. Zhivago
 - 55 Haul a heap
 - 57 Lucknow lute
 - 59 Sole mates?
 - 61 Petunia part
 - 63 Apprehend
 - 65 Implied
 - 66 Turkish city
 - 68 Duel tool
 - 70 Darjeeling dress
 - 71 Wore
 - 75 Pitt of "The Mexican"
 - 76 Desert refuge
 - 78 Trite
 - 79 "Gladiator" extra
 - 80 Boone or Benatar
 - 83 Lure
 - 87 Part of MP
 - 89 Chocolate substitute
 - 91 Damon and Pythias
 - 93 Wicked
 - 94 Use the VCR
 - 97 Darkness
 - 99 Tailor or Naldi
 - 100 Ripped
 - 103 Spilled the beans
 - 105 Progressive
 - 106 Meat cut
 - 108 Teach on the side
 - 113 Sign of spring
 - 114 Shattered
 - 115 Neighbor of Oman
 - 116 Bee and Em
 - 117 Après-ski quaff
 - 118 Entertainer Tamblin
 - 119 Like a raisin
 - 121 Spirited sled
 - 124 Word form for "within"
 - 126 About
 - 127 Salute the moon?
 - 128 Cultural grp.
 - 130 Pub order
 - 131 Basketball's Holman
 - 133 "Exodus" protagonist
 - 135 Tiffany treasure
 - 136 Paid player



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Jeschke out as River Kings boss

Terrance Gavan

Sports Editor

Resignation comes on the heels of two losses last weekend

Like ol' Winnie Churchill once said, "it is a riddle, wrapped in a mystery, inside an enigma; but perhaps there is a key."

If there is a key, I ain't got it. The only thing we know for sure is that Minden River Kings Coach Mike Jeschke is out and former assistant coach Brooks Robinson is in.

The only other thing we know for certain, and there's no riddle here, is that Robinson is now 1-0 as Minden River Kings head coach.

Robinson's first game as head coach was, as he said, "one of the most stressful days of my life."

Stress or not, the team rallied round their new head knock to the tune of a 5-4 victory last Sunday. (See game report in sports pages) It was an important game. The South Muskoka Shield came into the SG Nesbit Barn riding a 15 game winning streak.

The Kings victory, over the best team in the Greater Metro Hockey League (GMHL) had big ramifications. It was, said Robinson a statement game, verifying the imprimatur of their departed coach and probably intimating something special about this club, which, in their first year of play in the GMHL has had to learn to out skate some pretty significant growing pains. At the beginning of the year, they had to deal with a pretty debilitating player shortage. Somewhere in the mix, a month ago, Jeschke was hit with a three game suspension for an on-ice incident which included the launch of a garbage can onto the ice. They had problems with a stressful officiating problem which has since been sorted.

The league is quick to point out that Jeschke's departure has nothing to do with his on-ice performance or the play of the team which has been pretty respectable of late. The resurgence is due to some key player acquisitions which have allowed the Kings to skate with three full lines on most nights.

The Kings are sixth in the GMHL's northern division with a 7-15-1 record. More important than that, they have twice this year bumped off league number one teams.

Robinson was quick to give credit to his former mentor Jeschke after the Kings win last Sunday.

"Look Mike's my main man, this is his team and we won this game tonight playing his system, so it's really tough for me to comment right now," said Robinson. "They played Mike's game to the letter in the third period tonight," said Robinson.

Robinson said that it wasn't up to him to comment any further on the situation, especially since the two are very good friends. "Talk to the league about it, I really can't say any more than that."

League commissioner Ken Girard, who co-owns the River Kings with GMHL president and founder Bob Russell said last Monday from the league office that it was a decision reached mutually on Sunday.

Jeschke coached the River Kings as late as Saturday night, an 8-3 loss on the road to Toronto Canada Moose.

"He resigned, and that's all I can say right now," said Girard. He said that Jeschke's departure had nothing to do with the team's record or Jeschke's coaching abilities.

"We didn't fire him, we got a phone call on Sunday and a decision was reached."

Jeschke could not be reached for comment.

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NOTICES



Help Wanted

Township of Algonquin Highlands

The Township of Algonquin Highlands Recreation Department is hiring one person to set up and maintain an outdoor ice rink behind the Stanhope Community Hall. This contract position begins in December and runs to March 15, 2009. The hours are up to 35 hours per week as required.

Interested persons are invited to submit their resume to:

The Algonquin Highlands Recreation Department c/o The Dorset Recreation Centre, Box 99, Dorset ON POA 1E0 or email to drc@algonquinhighlands.ca by November 30, 2008



Join the Team

Township of Algonquin Highlands

The Township of Algonquin Highlands Recreation Department is currently seeking representation of the Stanhope Recreation Committee. Are you actively involved in sports and / or recreation and interested in becoming a voice for your community?

Interested persons (including adults and youth ages 14 to 18) are invited to submit a letter of application outlining interests, background and experience to:

The Algonquin Highlands Recreation Department c/o The Dorset Recreation Centre, Box 99, Dorset ON POA 1E0 or email to drc@algonquinhighlands.ca by November 30, 2008



Public Input

Trillium Lakelands District School Board is doing a program and accommodation review of Cardiff Elementary School and Wilberforce Elementary School due to declining enrolment.

There is a Committee called the "PARC" (which stands for Program and Accommodation Review Committee). Members of the PARC would like to invite you to give your input.

There will be four (4) public input meetings during the 2008-2009 school year.

Wednesday, December 3, 2008 6 p.m. Cardiff Elementary School
Wednesday, February 11, 2009 6 p.m. Wilberforce Elementary School
Wednesday, April 1, 2009 6 p.m. Cardiff Elementary School
Wednesday, May 20, 2009 6 p.m. Wilberforce Elementary School

Individuals or groups wishing to speak at a public input meeting need to fill out an Input Form and send it to one of the schools or to the school board. The form is found on the TLDSB website www.tldsb.on.ca or at Cardiff or Wilberforce Elementary Schools.

1. Presentation by an individual

Individuals may present to the PARC at one of the public input meetings listed above and are given up to 5 minutes to speak. Please bring with you a written summary of your presentation for the PARC.

2. Presentation by a group

One person representing a group or organization may speak for up to 10 minutes at one of the public input meetings listed above. Please bring with you a written summary of your presentation for the PARC.

3. Written Submissions

Individuals and organizations are welcome to submit input to the PARC in writing at any time. Input forms are available on the Board website and at each of the schools.

4. Question Period

There will be an opportunity at the end of each public input meeting for questions. Members of the public will be invited to ask questions of the PARC.

For more information please contact Susan Johnson in the Director's Office at 1-888-526-5552 ext 22104.

Have Your Say... VOX POP

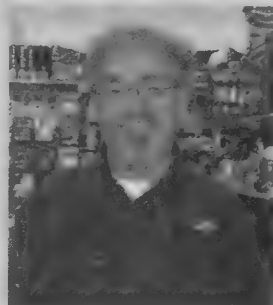
We asked business owners and managers in Minden & Haliburton, "What can you offer shoppers this Christmas? Why should people come to your store instead of travelling elsewhere?"



Franka Andriano, Owner of Franka's Cafe & Catering – "We provide all of your Christmas baking and entertainment needs. Everything we have is homemade. In our hostess boxes we have some spectacular Christmas items. We also have a gingerbread we're raffling off at \$2 per ticket. All the proceeds will go to a local food program. So come in, because we're doing lots of different things."



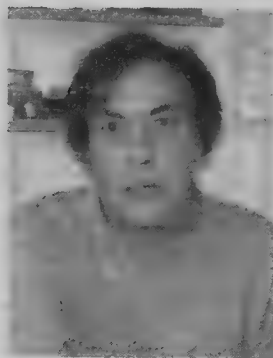
Dana Mann, Front Shop Manager, Minden Pharmasave – "We have a new games section that has a big selection of board games and travel electronic toys. We renovated in June and have a greatly expanded cosmetic section. We carry wrapping paper that's on sale now until Christmas. We also have boxed Christmas cards and our store owner decided to bring in Webkinz. We're very flexible, if we don't have a product we don't mind trying to get it."



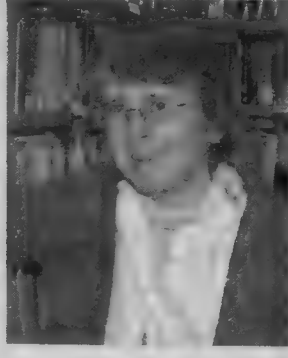
John Thomas, Owner of Stedman's Department Store (Minden) – "We try to have a lot of toys on sale. We also try to keep all of the toys and Christmas items at their sale price even after Christmas. We have the ideal prices before Christmas. We carry brand name toys because that's what the kids want. We cover all of the basics, such as Christmas wrapping paper, bags, boxes and last minute stuff."



Jodi Paterson, Co-Owner of Minden Home Hardware – "We're the largest retail business in Minden and Haliburton as far as shopping goes. We're very well stocked, we have Christmas sales galore, and we have a large Christmas toy centre and a large selection of giftware. We try to accommodate customers by being a one-shop and we strive to provide great customer service. We had Christmas and toy catalogues distributed through the mail where people can see the specials."



Paul Reng, Owner of Minden Book & Stationary – "I have lots of stuff on bargain buys and new books for prices you often can't find in the city. Prices on ink jet cartridges are also competitive. All my special buy books are a major part of my business. I usually can order something in for someone. Between my store and Golden Stationers in Minden, we cover most of the items that are called for."



Ruth Carter, employee of Master's Book Store – "We have people that come into our store from places like Brantford, Waterloo, Arnprior and even Munich, Germany to do their Christmas shopping. We have a nice selection of gift items but it's our books that bring in the people. We have a variety that many people say you can find at the big box stores and if we don't have something, we're very accommodating to try and get it in. We also have a fabulous kids section with crafts, videos, games and some toys and there are many gift items that adults will enjoy."

The "Grand Ladies" of Curling

Haliburton Curling Club's Longest Standing Members Honoured

For over 50 years, Bernice "Bunny" Scott and Phyllis Woodcock have been members of the Haliburton Curling Club. This past Tuesday, the two curlers and friends were honoured for their contributions to the group during a special ladies bonspiel in Haliburton.

Mrs. Scott (86) and Mrs. Woodcock (83) met each other through the Haliburton Club and played together in mixed bonspiels as well as ladies tournaments all over Ontario. Due to an injury, Woodcock doesn't play in competitive games anymore, but Scott is still going strong at it. Woodcock is still involved with the club, as she regularly comes out to senior games every Monday and helps out by making them coffee. ■



Phyllis Woodcock



Bernice "Bunny" Scott

Announcements

Remembering Doris McCann

It was with great sadness that we at Community Care Haliburton County (formerly Haliburton County Home Support Services) learned of the passing of our founder, Doris McCann on Nov. 13, 2008.

We were so pleased that in 2005 Doris was able to attend and to be recognized for her contributions as we celebrated our 25th anniversary. The Right Honourable George Smitherman, the then Minister of Health and Long-Term Care attended this celebration and honoured the vision that Doris and other volunteers had and continue to have.

In 1998 it went full circle when Doris McCann became the recipient of many of the community support services that she had started including Diner's Club, Meals on Wheels, Home Help, Transportation and Friendly Visiting. Those community support services helped to enable Doris to remain at her home until recently. That was Doris' vision manifested.

We shall miss Doris coming to our office and the volunteers shall miss providing the services to her. So many seniors and adults with disabilities and/or illnesses are so grateful to Doris. Last fiscal year 1,178 clients received 29,243 units of services from CCHC. Her legacy will live on as our seven (7) staff and our one hundred and thirty-six (136) volunteers at Community Care Haliburton County continue to provide the services to our clients with empathy, dignity and respect to enable them to remain independent in their own homes for a longer period.

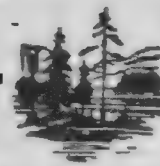
The Board of Directors and Staff of
Community Care Haliburton County

In Memory

In Loving Memory of My Dear Husband John, who passed away November 25, 2005

We took our vows together
And said "Till death do us part"
So when God came and took your hand
My whole world fell apart.
No one knows the heartache
I try so hard to hide.
No one knows how many times
I've broken down and cried
When I look back upon our lives
Just one thing makes me glad
That you chose me to share with you
Those precious years we had
I know you walk beside me
And when my life is through
I pray that God will take my hand
And lead me straight to you
Forever in my heart,
Your wife Barb.

Death Notices



Doris McCann

(Resident of Kennis Lake, Ontario)

Peacefully at home on Thursday, November 13, 2008 in her 90th year. Predeceased by her husband Richard and son Peter. Loving mother of Judy (Rick), Bryan (Nicolette) and Barry (Heather), and grandmother to Marcy, Max, Stephanie, Matt, Alexandra, Sean, Lucas and Isabel, and great-grandmother to Mary Anne. Sister to Bruce and Phyllis. Doris was a Veteran, serving as a nursing sister in Halifax during World War Two. She continued as a nurse all her working life, including working with Veterans at Sunnybrook Hospital, then as a public health nurse. Upon retirement from nursing she began a second career, developing Agincourt Community Services, serving seniors in the community. This grew into Scarborough Support Services which celebrated its 30 year anniversary and recognized her as a founder. Retiring again, she and Richard retired permanently to Haliburton. Once again she found services for seniors lacking and with help developed Haliburton Support Services, now known as Community Cares. She has been recognized by Ontario's Health Minister for these accomplishments with her proud family beside her. Special thanks to all the caregivers involved, especially her son-in-law Rick Wilkins, Dr. Heyes in Haliburton, Dr. Jaciw in Whitby who actually makes house calls, the personal caregivers from Paramed and St. Elizabeth's as arranged by the Community Care Access Centres and assistance from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Visitation & Funeral Mass

Friends are invited to call at the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705)457-9209 on Sunday afternoon, November 16, 2008 from 2-4 p.m. Then to ST. ANTHONY'S OF PADUA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH 27 Victoria St. Haliburton, Ontario on Monday morning, November 17, 2008 for Funeral Mass at 11 o'clock. Interment later Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery, Thornhill. As expressions of sympathy donations to Community Care or the Alzheimer's Society would be appreciated by the family.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com

County Voice *Easy to Read* Classifieds

Deadline for Classifieds is every Monday at noon

Pets & Agriculture

ARE YOU A GOLDEN RETRIEVER BELIEVER? Golden Rescue, The Canadian Golden Retriever Adoption Service Inc. URGENTLY needs foster homes, vet services, "forever" homes, donations, members, fundraisers/volunteers. Help us care for this magnificent breed. Anything you can do would be greatly appreciated. For information please contact us at 1-866-712-8444 or visit www.golden-rescue.net. tfn

END OF SEASON SALE "One of a Kind" porcelain dolls and collectables. Don't miss this opportunity to cash in on the best deal north of Hwy 7. Come in and see for yourself the exquisite detail and workmanship. All sales are final. We are making way for a new venture. The Xmas Shoppe. 2767 Loop Road. Highlands East Wilberforce Ont. For more info contact Dan at airbrushpets@sympatico.ca november d 08

Careers

CAREER IN REAL ESTATE. Contact Kate Archer, Training Director at (705) 457-2220 or careers@bowesandcocks.com Bowes & Cocks Limited, Brokerage. tfn

JOB OPPORTUNITY - Reliable person wanted for office work on casual basis. Mostly weekends. Seniors welcome. Apply within at Motel Minden, Hwy #35, Minden. 286-6900 november d 08

Comm. For Rent

COMMERCIAL BUILDING FOR RENT Offices, Studio & Shops New, bright spaces for rent - lots of windows Free parking, shared meeting & lunch rooms incl. Monthly or Yearly Low Rents Join other professionals.

Haliburton Executive Centre 235 Highland Street, Haliburton (across from LCBO) For all enquiries, please contact Sheila @ (705) 457-8898 december a 08

COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT. 2 Units Available. Unit #1- 1500 sq. ft. 152 Highland Street (corner of Highland & Cedar) - this unit available immediately. Unit #2- 1500 sq. ft. 162 Highland Street (adjacent to Kosy Korner) - this unit available Nov. 1st. (705) 457-5143 fax or (705) 457-9167 phone or by email: measton3@sympatico.ca tfn

For Rent

FOR RENT - Fully furnished, two bedroom luxury apartment, 2 mins from Haliburton. Full kitchen, new LG appliances, two bath, on Lake Kashagawigamog. Big view, beach, large deck. No smoking, no pets, 2 references. \$1200 all inclusive heat, hydro, sat. First and last. Available Dec 15, 2008. Call Ted 457-5247 november d 08

FOR RENT Room for Rent - In town B&B has furnished room with cable tv, wireless internet. \$380 a month. Student or fully employed. 455-9164. november d 08

FOR RENT - 1 bedroom, self contained, well maintained apartment in Maple Lake area, Hwy 118. Main level, private deck, heat & hydro included. No pets/smoking. References. \$625/mth. Suits single/mature person (705) 754-9732 or (905) 833-1127 november d 08

FOR RENT - Charming 3 bdrm home in Haliburton Village, partially furnished, with carport & lg yard. Non smokers only. \$1400/month incl. utilities. Call for 455-9376 applications. november d 08

FOR RENT - In Haliburton, 3 bdrm 1 bathroom with large yard & single garage; within walking distance of village amenities., \$975 per month plus utilities. Non-smokers only, no pets. First and last, references required. Call Nathan at 457-2754 November d 08

For Sale

ARTICLES FOR SALE Vacuum cleaner \$50.00 - Old phone (wood mount) black - Water pump for deep or shallow well \$50 - "9'6" insulated chimney 8" cap, UL approved. \$300.00 Call 457-1006 november d 08

FOR SALE - WOODSPLITTER 3 PH mount \$750.00 o.b.o. call 705-457-3655 november d 08

FOR SALE - 4 NEW NORDIC SNOWTIRES on rims. 175/65/R14 Asking \$250 o.b.o. fits Ford Escort. Also available 3 All Season Radial Good Year tires. Allegra. 175/65/R14 80% tread. \$100 o.b.o. Call 286-2973 november d 08

FOR SALE - SNOW TIRES 4 Winter Tires for sale. Hercules Polar Trax 195/60/R14 and steel rims. 4 bolt pattern. Used one season. \$400 Call 286-4184 november d 08

For Sale

FOR SALE - NEW COMPLETE SEPTIC SYSTEMS. 30 Years of experience in Minden and Haliburton area. We take care of all paperwork and permits. Fully licenced, health unit inspected. Call for a free estimate, Brent Colman Trucking and Escavating at 705-286-3952 or 1-800-357-8711 tfn

HOUSE FOR SALE - HALIBURTON AREA 2 bedroom house in Haliburton. Drilled well, walk to stores, overlooks lake. \$85,000 o.b.o. Call (705) 488-2382 november d 08

FOR SALE - 1999 SKIDOO GT - Two up, serviced, ready to go, reverse, hand warmers, electric start. Excellent shape \$2350.00. Call: 457-9322

FOR SALE - 1993 POLARIS ATV 4wd, winch, snowplow, one owner, low mileage \$2000.00 call 457-3655

FOR SALE - 1999 DODGE CARAVAN ES - Certified, all power, 3.8L. Comes with summer and winter tires and rims. \$3500 obo 754-1698 november d 08

FOR SALE - 2005 POLARIS CLASSIC - New in 2006. Loaded incl. reverse. Only 1400 kms. Wife's machine. Paid \$7600.00. Will sell for \$5200.00 Mint condition. See it/Buy it! Call 447-9900 november d 08

Wanted

ARTICLES WANTED - Old or antique used furniture, one piece or whole estates bought plus clean-up of everything also cars, trucks, boats trailers if the price is right I will make you a deal on anything call Richard in Tory Hill at 448-3920. Clean up of scrap cars or metal as well. tfn

Lost

LOST - 11 year old, male Beagle. If found please call Paul at 286-6492

Services

K9 CLIPPERS & KENNELS 2153 HARBURN ROAD. Professional Grooming Service & friendly, loving home away from home 1-705-457-3614 NATASHA COUMBS. tfn

SERVICES - FTA SATELLITE SYSTEMS 1000's of channels, no program fees, all satellite system installs. 306-0023 (local call) tfn

SERVICES - THE WILD OUTDOORS formerly CC Enterprises. 163 Highland Street, Haliburton. Automotive, Snowmobile, ATV, Marine Parts & Accessories. Complete line of Hunting, Archery, Fishing tackle, Paintball, Soft Air Guns & Accessories, Live Bait & Licensing. Open 7 days a week. (705) 457-5334 June 09

ODD JOB JACK-YOUR LOCAL HANDYMAN 448-9965 For any and all odd jobs. What can we do for you? Email oddjobjack@yahoo.ca tfn

CELEBRATE RECOVERY, A Christ-centered recovery group for all of life's hurts, habits, and hang-ups. A time of worship, teaching, Small Groups, and community. Meet others journeying this same road as you, & take steps towards freedom from the addictive, compulsive and dysfunctional behaviours that hold your life back. Every Monday Night 7 - 10 PM at Lakeside Baptist Church, 9 Park Street, Haliburton. 457-2851 www.celebraterecovery.com tfn

Congratulations

CONGRATULATIONS - Haliburton Home Hardware would like to congratulate

Helen Williams who won the inflatable SpongeBob SquarePants. november d 08

For Sale



Haliburton County EMS



P.O. Box 1265, 6 South Street, Haliburton, Ontario, K0M 1S0 Phone: 705-457-1616

VEHICLE FOR SALE

2000 Ford CTV (Ambulance) Located at: 6 South St. - Haliburton Ambulance Base and may be viewed Monday thru Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. or by appointment.

Official Bid Forms may be picked up at either County Administration Building - 11 Newcastle Street or Administration Offices - Haliburton County EMS between the hours of 8:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. - Monday through Friday or may be downloaded from the County Website:

www.county.haliburton.on.ca

Vehicles will be sold on an "as-is/where-is" basis.

Official Bids must be received at 11 Newcastle Street, Minden, before 2:00 p.m. on Thursday December 11, 2008.

Lowest or any bid not necessarily accepted.

Classifieds... 457-5001
class@countyvoice.ca

Help Wanted

PATIENT NEWS PUBLISHING
Celebrating Our 15th Anniversary!
1993-2008



GRAPHIC DESIGNER REQUIRED

Join our energetic, proficient, and talented design team. We are looking for candidates with a diploma in graphic design and a minimum of two years design experience. Attention to detail, creative flair, multi-tasking, and problem solving are required skills. Experience with PhotoShop, Illustrator, InDesign and colour correction preferred.

Patient News Publishing offers an award-winning working environment and a positive, fun, and empowering team atmosphere. If you can work efficiently with a smile and a sense of humour, send your resume to scarlin@patientnews.com - subject line Graphic Designer. Only qualified applicants will be contacted.

Help Wanted THEATRE MANAGER

The Haliburton Highlands Performing Arts Society is actively seeking someone to fill this position. This is for you if you:

- have excellent communication skills;
- are comfortable using a computer and are organized;
- are technically savvy or willing to learn simple operations of lighting and sound equipment;
- can be available on short notice in case of emergencies, able to work unsupervised and weekends, but not more than 35 hours a month;
- love live theatre and want to be involved in supporting the performing arts in our community.

A more detailed job description is available upon request. Training, with pay, will begin immediately with a start date of July 1, 2009.

Interested parties should call 457-1235, or send a resume with references to Debra Dart, Theatre Manager, PO Box 1038, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0



www.royallepagelakesofhaliburton.ca
Royal LePage
LAKES of HALIBURTON

 Brokerage
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

Four Locations To Serve You

HALIBURTON

Bus: (705) 457-2414 (800) 457-2414

MINDEN

Bus: (705) 286-1234 (877) 286-3334

KENNISIS / REDSTONE

Bus: (705) 754-1932

CARNARVON

Bus: (705) 489-1235

FINEST ESTATE - \$1,749,000


Kashagawigamog Lake Estate w/ 3 separately deeded waterfront parcels - 586 feet frontage on 6.44 acres. Level topography, abuts a creek, privacy. North parcel features an original 3,300 sq. ft. 1946 stone home. Boathouse w/ loft, double insulated garage w/ loft & barn. Home features 3 fireplaces, hardwood floors, original doors & accessories, library.

Anthony vanLieshout** 457-2414 ext 27

CUSTOM BUILT - \$265,900


2006 custom built 1,720 sq. ft. 3 bedrm, loaded with upgrades. Level lot, cedar exterior, renaissance shingles, high efficiency forced air furnace - central air & air exchanger. High end finished interior w/ cathedral ceilings - skylights, hardwood/ceramic/slate floors throughout, custom hickory kitchen with granite countertop.

Cathy Bain * 457-2414 ext 23

HOME WITH ACREAGE - \$329,900


50 acre parcel overlooking semi private pond located near Haliburton. 1,750 square ft., 3 bedrm, 3 washrm open concept custom built home on full finished walk-out basement. Oak cabinetry, yellow birch hardwood floors throughout, solid pine doors, 2 stone floor to ceiling fireplaces, master ensuite - walk-in closet, jacuzzi tub. High speed internet.

Lorri Roberts * 457-2414 ext 43

MOUNTAIN LAKE - \$599,900


4,000 sq. ft., 4 bdrs, 3 1/2 baths, 2 beamed lvg rooms, 2 offices/studios (1 has a washroom, storage & separate entrance). Dining room, kitchen, breakfast room, exercise/plan room, wine making room. Oil heating w/an air-tight wood stove for extra winter comfort. A/C cools in summer. Double storey barn has a huge workshop - lots of storage.

Patti & Hal Johnson ** 236-1234 ex 238

RURAL RESIDENTIAL - \$169,900


Renovated 2+ bedroom home located on over 5 acres with total privacy. Above ground pool w/ wrap around decking. Recent renos - maple kitchen, ceramic tile, bathroom fixtures, main floor laundry, hardwood maple flooring, decking, airtight pellet stove and light fixtures. Full walkout basement with extra bedroom, storage and workshop.

Debbie Cumber* 457-2414 ext 24

IRONDALE RIVER - \$25,000


Nice building lot located on the Irondale River. Year round municipal access, subject to a Right Of Way. Nicely treed, good building site.

Susan Johnson * 286-1234

COUNTRY HOME - \$299,000


Custom built 4 bedrm. home on level, tastefully landscaped private country lot. Open concept design with cathedral ceilings and dormers all done in pine and a modern kitchen. Hardwood maple floors, main floor laundry and a fully finished basement. Circular drive leads you to a two and a half car insulated garage and a large swimming pool.

Chris & Michelle Smolatz * 457-2414

MONCK ROAD - \$163,000


Very private location, backs onto a ravine. Would make a great Retreat Property, excellent location for a home business (B & B). Large 4 bedroom home with a breezeway from a double garage, has a large screened porch overlooking a ravine with an open deck to the side. Living room with stone fireplace. Pool.

 David Lee * 286-1234
www.haliburtonhighlands-realestate.ca

HIGHLAND GATE BLVD \$298,000


Lovely three bedroom bungalow in prestigious area of Minden. Large level lot with town water and sewer on year round municipal road. Home features master bedroom with ensuite. Beautiful sunroom leads out to large deck and back yard. Full finished basement with rec room, 2 bedrooms and bathroom.

Tom Gardner* 286-1234

SEDGWICK ROAD - \$114,900


Great starter or retirement home, 2+ bedrooms, value-priced, very private lot with great view. Large sun room, oversized detached 2 car garage, home being sold 'as is'. Easy access to Minden/Haliburton, on township road.

Al Mayo * 286-1234

HIGHWAY 118 - COMMERCIAL \$279,000


Prime level commercial opportunity on Highway #118 NEAR Highway #35 intersection. Detached home, large out building (currently bait shop) and shed. Excellent exposure & ideal future development - abuts corner property (Hwy 35 & Hwy 118) which is currently for sale (Carnarvon Bowl) older 4 bedroom home currently rented.

Ed Gibbons * 286-1234

BASLINE ROAD - \$224,900


150 acre of prime land ideal for farming development small hunt camp included in property this is a one of a kind property.

Peter Franzen* 286-1234

Happy Holidays to All


Wishing Everyone A Safe & Happy Winter

Lindsay Elder ** 286-1234

Thinking About A Change?

Why not Give us a Call!

Kennisis Lake - \$549,000


Check out this spectacular building lot on the West Shore of Kennisis Lake. 298 ft of frontage on 3.5 acres of well treed land. This lot is fairly level with many building sites to choose from. Great open big lake view. Enjoy the sun all day with the south easterly view. Driveway installed. Hydro and Bell at lot line also high speed available.

Gloria Carrochan or Cindy Muenzel * 754-1932

* Sales Representative ** Broker *** Broker of Record

Santa Visits Haliburton

52 Entries in This Year's Third Annual Santa Clause Parade



The Christmas spirit was alive in the Village of Haliburton last Friday when the third annual night-time Santa Clause Parade rolled through the town.

A total of 52 entries, including floats and five musical bands, were a part of the popular annual tradition. Lights on floats illuminated the night time sky as they travelled through a crowded Highland St. and children collected their fill of candies that were thrown to them from parade participants. Letters for Santa were also collected by Canada Post walking mailboxes.

"Everyone had a good time and they were all in the Christmas spirit," said Parade Organizer Jim Frost.

This year a challenge was issued to Lions Club members to collect food items for local area food banks. Volunteers could be seen going around with shopping carts collecting these items as well as cash donations. For every dollar collected, the Lions Club agreed to match the donations. The Haliburton Rotary Club also partnered up with them and made the same commitment. During the parade, a total of \$700 in monetary donations was received, and that total was brought to over \$2,100 with the two groups contributions. Several carts of food were collected.

The first Haliburton night parade was held in 2006 and brought out a total of 47 entrants. Next year's parade is scheduled to be held on November 20.

Frost, along with the Haliburton Village BIA and the District Lions Club would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's parade. ■

For week of December 1

Horoscopes It's in the Stars

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a passion for life that inspires others to follow your example. You could be a motivational speaker.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Keep your feelings to yourself as you work through an awkward circumstance. Complaining is useless, and also unwise since your words could come back to haunt you.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A sudden flash of Bovine practicality shows you how you might be able to turn your artistic pursuits into a profitable venture. A spouse or partner offers some sage advice.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Be prepared with several "Plan Bs" that you might have to use as backups just in case you encounter some troublesome complications with your carefully constructed schedule.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You might think you'll never have a free moment again with the demands of the workplace piling on. Cheer up. The pressure eases as holiday time nears. An old friend brings good news.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your Leonine pride might make it difficult to offer an apology to a co-worker you unintentionally offended. But a quick and sincere "I'm sorry" could prevent problems down the line.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This is a good time to tackle those backed-up chores that have kept you from moving into other and potentially more worthwhile projects. A personal matter needs your attention.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You usually have no problem rushing to the defense of someone you perceive as being treated unjustly. But perceptions could be deceiving this week. Check the facts before you act.

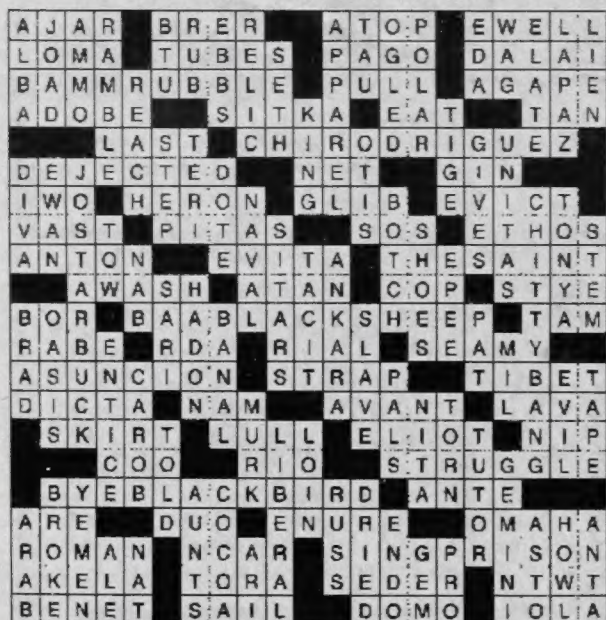
SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Before you point fingers at who might be to blame for the unexpected change in your plans, take a few moments to reflect on how this turn of events might be a blessing in disguise.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You seek out advice in the first part of the week. But be careful not to let counsel from others overshadow your own sense of perception. Things become clearer by the week's end.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) The trusted colleagues you relied on earlier continue to offer support with your project. But you take more control, and by the week's end, you should be in full command.

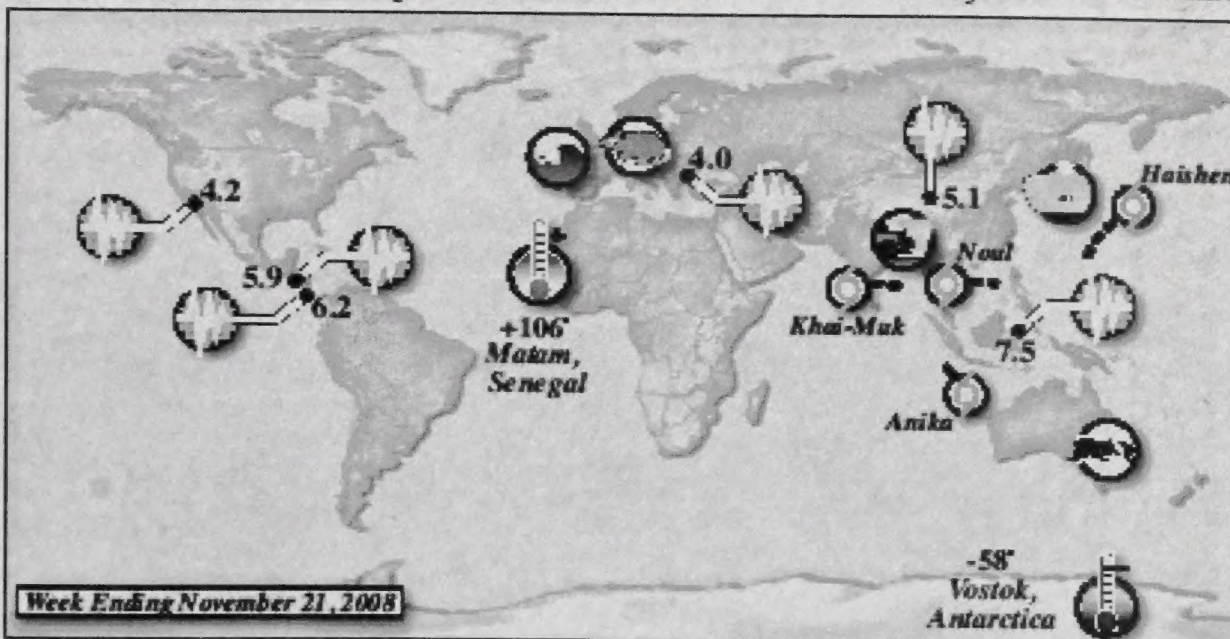
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Rely on your practical side while exploring investment possibilities. Caution is still your watchword in these matters. Your social life takes a gratifying turn by the week's end.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) An already confusing situation appears to grow murkier during the first part of the week. But it all starts to clear by the week's end. Plan to spend the weekend with someone special.



Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

By Steve Newman



Melting Lifts Tides

Melting water from ice caps in Antarctica and Greenland, and that from mountain glaciers worldwide, has replaced warmer temperatures as the main force behind rising sea levels, according to a new study. Using two types of satellite observations, Anny Cazenave of France's National Center for Space Studies found that thermal expansion of the seas virtually stopped after 2003 due to a respite in ocean warming. Satellite-based gravity measurements of the Earth revealed that the Greenland ice sheet is losing about 150 gigatons of ice each year. Combined with the loss of ice in West Antarctica, observations show that melting has contributed about 1 millimeter (.04 inches) per year to the rising seas over the past five years. Ocean levels have been rising since 1993 by almost double the rate they did during the previous 50 years. The trend could have disastrous impacts on millions of people who live in low-lying coastal areas.

Brown Cloud Hazards

Vast clouds of air pollution are darkening the skies in many parts of Asia, melting glaciers and posing a threat to the health of millions in the region, according to a new United Nations report. The "atmospheric brown clouds" (ABC) result from the burning of fossil fuels, wood and plants. They have been found to amplify the impact of climate change brought on by greenhouse gas emissions, the U.N. Environment Program report said. The 10,000-foot-thick layer of soot and industrial pollution has been observed stretching from the Arabian Peninsula to China and the islands of the western Pacific. The ABC make the skies in at least 13 major Asian cities up to 25 percent

dimmer and contribute to public health hazards, the report says. Some researchers involved in the study said they were concerned the diminished sunlight could threaten agricultural production for 3 billion people in the region.

Japan's Whale Hunt

The largest ship in Japan's whaling fleet embarked on another season of "research" whaling as the Australian government announced that new scientific techniques make it unnecessary to kill the whales in order to study them. Japan is able to circumvent a ban on commercial whaling in place since 1986 by saying its operations are needed to study the marine mammals' migratory and reproductive habits. But Australian Environment Minister Peter Garrett says his country's new \$4 million whale research program makes slaughtering whales completely unnecessary. "Modern-day research uses genetic and molecular techniques as well as satellite tags, acoustic methods and aerial surveys rather than grenade-tipped harpoons," Garrett said. Japan's fleet plans to kill 935 minke whales and 50 fin whales during its Antarctic hunt.

Australian Swarms

Fresh swarms of maturing locusts swept across parts of Australia's New South Wales state as many farmers were preparing for harvest. About a dozen swarms, one nearly 4 miles long and more than 500 feet wide, were spotted in the south and west of the state. The government has placed nine planes on stand-by to spray the insects if the swarms grow larger or thicker. Agriculture officials say it is fortunate many of the crops had turned yellow before the locusts arrived as the ravenous insects prefer to feed on green plants.

Earthquakes

A powerful undersea earthquake killed at least six people on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi. More than 1,000 homes were damaged, 400 leveled to the ground.

* A 6.2 magnitude quake damaged a few homes along the Panama-Costa Rica border.

* Earth movements were also felt in western China, Bulgaria, El Salvador and near San Diego, Calif.

Tropical Cyclones

Four people were killed when Tropical Storm Noul triggered flash flooding in Vietnam.

* Cyclone Khai-Muk drenched southern parts of India.

* Tropical Storm Haisben churned the western Pacific while Cyclone Anika spun to the south of Java.

Pied Piper Redux

The German city made famous by the fabled Pied Piper is being overrun once again by a modern-day rat infestation — this time with no one to pipe the pests out of town. An abandoned public garden in Hamelin has become a haven for exploding numbers of mice and rats, which are finding an overabundance of food in a nearby garbage dump. All this as the community prepares for the 725th anniversary of the end of its most famous rat plague. But unlike in June of 1284, there is no piper to lure the rats to a drowning death in the nearby Weser River. That event was the basis of the Brothers Grimm fairy tale in which the townsfolk refused to pay the piper for his services. In retaliation, he piped off with Hamelin's children, who were never seen again.

Distributed by: Universal Press Syndicate
www.earthweek.com

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WAKE UP WITH RYAN & RICK IN THE MORNING.

MOOSE FM

HALIBURTON - MINDENS CLASSIC ROCK 93.5



Granite Realty Group Inc. Real Estate Brokerage

FOUR OFFICES SERVICING HALIBURTON COUNTY

Haliburton 457-2128 Kennisis 754-2100

Minden 286-2138 Carnarvon 489-9968

The Local Experts

Little Kennisis \$449,000



Southern exposure, beautiful view and gently sloping property. Cozy 3 bedroom, 4- season cottage with large living room and floor-to-ceiling Stone Fireplace.

Kerrie Farr and Shirley Rule - 754-2100

Serviced Minden Lot! \$37,900



Wonderful Minden lot north on Bobcaygeon Rd. past the schools. Sewers, water, hydro available with service entrance already in. Build your dream home

Janice Brookes 457-2128

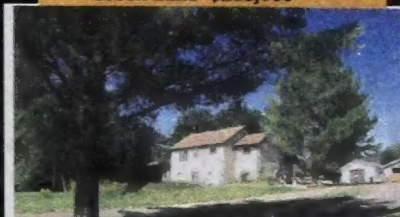
Soyers Lake \$1,950,000



Custom Built 4600 sqft 4 BR, 3 bath estate home. 20+ acres of pristine privacy. Over 220' of shoreline. Incl. 2 Kitchens & 2 Laundry rooms.

Drew Bishop - 457-2128

Green Lake \$239,900



Beautiful south facing lot with sand beach and great low maintenance 4 yr old home with full partially finished basement.

Lee Gauthier 489-9968

Wonderful Privacy \$299,900



Great 3 BR cottage with pine floors throughout, cathedral ceiling, woodstove on a beautiful well treed private property. West exp. on a quiet no motor lake.

Mark Dennys 457-2128

Miskwabi Lake \$249,000



Build your dream cottage! Gentle slope from building site to 160' of clean rock & sand shoreline. Yr rnd access, hydro & phone available

Susanne James & Andy Mosher 457-2128

Minden Lake \$364,900



3 BR home/cottage with 167' of waterfront on picturesque Minden Lake. Quiet neighbourhood, great swimming, fishing & near White Water Reserve.

Paul Szpik - 457-2128

Million Dollar Quality \$535,000



And, it's only half the price! Exceptional lot with large frontage, big lake view, S exp. & beautiful 3 BR cottage, den, 2 baths, fully finished lower level.

Derrell and Kim Stamp 457-2128

Charming 3 Bedroom \$139,000



Cozy home with 1 1/2 bath is set on a very private 9.81 acre lot, a portion is fenced to house animals, 30x30 insulated, heated shop is drywalled, also features a bunkie

Greg Stamp 457-2128

Koshlong Lake \$259,800



Very neat and clean 3 BR cottage. Great sand/rock shoreline. Boathouse at waters edge with a large sitting deck above it to enjoy the evening sunsets.

Wilf VanLieshout - 457-2128

Just Reduced!



Two, one acre wooded lots, frontage on municipal road, close to Minden and hwy 35. Residential or industrial use. \$29,500 each.

Tom Ecclestone 286-2138

Looking for a larger home? \$250,000



This may be for you! Close to Town, 3.5 acre lot with pond. 3 Lge BR with MF master, 2 baths, & rec. room in bsmt. Formal dining rm + breakfast area

Dagmar Boettcher - 286-2138

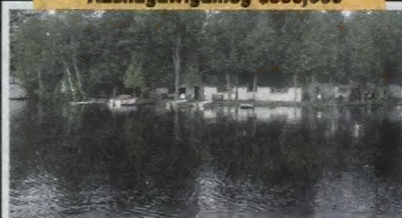
Ski Chalet \$449,000



New 3 BR, 3 Bath chalet at Sir Sam's. Full finished bsmt & w/o. Top end finishings. Large wrap around decks on 2 levels. Spectacular view of Eagle Lake.

Andrew Hodgson - 286-2128

Kashagawigamog \$550,000



Resort or Family Compound located on Haliburton's most popular 5 lake chain. Sunset views, 5 cabins plus residence, level lot, easy year round access

Anne Moulton 286-2138

Cod Love It! \$55,000



Busy Highland St. location. Licensed for 55. Includes all equipment and chattels. Turn Key and open for business!

Tom Wilkinson 286-2138

Home on 1 Acre \$127,900



Cute 2 bedroom home near Carnarvon with many recent upgrades. Close to snowmobile trail and public access to Kushog Lake.

Kristin Withey 286-2138

Country Charm \$399,000



Lindal cedar 3 BR, 3 bath home. Wooded setting & stream. Great Location. Turn key. Vaulted ceilings, open concept, Jennair appl., fam rm, Dbl garage & more.

John Hincks 286-2138

Great rental potential! \$73,900



2 BR with large 760 ft shop/studio. Close to public access to Hall Lake. New furnace, roof & comes with all appliances! Open to all offers!

Tom Ecclestone 286-2138

21 Acres \$249,900



Large 3 BR family home, lge LR, 2 stone FP and w/o basement. Features 4 stall horse barn, paddock & large workshop & nice pond.

Anne Moulton 286-2138

Cute as a Button \$245,000



Vintage 3 BR cottage, 720 sq ft, airtight woodstove on the perfect flat lot with flat rock & sand beach on a mun. road located in a quiet dead end bay.

Lee Gauthier 489-9968

* Sales Representative ** Broker *** Broker of Record



Drew Bishop **
457-2128



Janice Brookes *
457-2128



Dagmar Boettcher *
286-2138



Mark Dennys *
457-2128



Tom Ecclestone *
286-2138



Kerrie Farr **
754-2100



Lee Gauthier **
489-9968



John Hincks **
286-2138



Andrew Hodgson *
286-2138



Susanne James & Andy Mosher **
457-2128



Anne Moulton *
286-2138



Shirley Rule *
754-2100



Derrell Stamp ***
& Kim Stamp **
457-2128



Greg Stamp *
457-2128



Paul Szpik *
457-2128



Wilfred VanLieshout**
457-2128



Tom Wilkinson **
286-2138



Kristin Withey *
286-2138

website: www.century21granite.com email: info@century21granite.com

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